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Village View

Oak Lawn, Illinois

Cook County

From Jan 05, 2010

Thru Dec 21, 2010

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VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Lawn / Burbank / Hickory Hills / Evergreen Park

Volume 36 Number 13 January 5, 2010

Evergreen Park approves hospital permit fees

By Matt Mayer

The village board at the Dec. 21 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting approved an ordinance establishing permit fees for the construction of the Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers transformation project. Mayor James Sexton and the Board of Trustees have determined that the proposed transformation of Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers is in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare of the residents and businesses within the village.

At a prior meeting the board approved an ordinance vacating a portion of the north south public alley, west of Francesco Avenue, east of Richmond Avenue and south of 94th Street as well as an ordinance vacating a portion of Francesco Avenue, north of 95th and south of 94th Streets. The estimated construction cost of the hospital buildings is $125,625,221. Officials have determined that the fee schedule contained within the municipal code regarding the hospital building construction should be modified. The permit and inspection fees are specifically determined as follows: In lieu of building permit and building inspection fees established in the Evergreen Park municipal code, an all inclusive building permit and inspection fee for the construction of the hospital and health care centers transformation project is $1,000,000 which will be paid in 40 monthly installments of $25,000 beginning January 2010. The fee will also not be subjected to any adjustment based on the actual cost of improvements. This ordinance is based upon a permit being issued the hospital building construction prior to January 1, 2011. In the event that such permits are not issued by that date, the ordinance will become null and void.

The following is a note regarding the new Illinois laws, which join 18 other states and took effect on New Year's Day. It is now illegal to compose, send or read text messages, instant messages or e-mails on a cell phone as well as surfing the Internet while driving. The law includes PDA's mobile and portable computers. GPS systems however are exempted. Law enforcement agencies would have preferred to see the law cover GPS systems as well due to one looking at the map and keying in their information, which they feel is sometimes worse than texting. Using a cell phone without a hands free device while driving through a school zone or a construction zone is also now illegal.

Violators will receive a $75 citation for the first offence. Police will also have the ability to subpoena phone records after a serious accident to determine if the driver was texting prior to the crash. Secretary of State Jessie White along with all law enforcement agencies fervently believe drivers following this law will greatly reduce traffic accidents and fatalities. As the old adage goes, the life you save may be your own.

Daniel P. Smith, author of, *On the Job: Behind the Stars of the Chicago Police Department*

Local Authors discuss latest works at Oak Lawn Library

Win the Job Interview Before It Begins & Take Control of Your Career

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free lecture for job seekers on Thursday, January 14 at 7 p.m. Most job candidates don't realize that an interviewer can decide whether they will be moved to the top of the list or dropped from consideration — within the first sixty seconds. Dan Burns, author of the book *The First 60 Seconds*, will discuss tools and techniques to help you make a great first impression and differentiate yourself from the competition. Burns will also outline a sixty-day plan that should precede going on interviews and offer guidance for communicating with a prospective employer. Copies of his book will be available for purchase.

The Library will also host a free lecture exploring the inner workings of the Chicago Police Department on Monday, January 18 at 7 p.m.

Author, journalist and lifelong Chicagoan Daniel P. Smith guides readers into the closed-door society that is the Chicago Police Department in his compelling debut work, *On the Job: Behind the Stars of the Chicago Police Department*. Smith will share never-before-told stories of the tolls that police work exacts on the officers and their families; while interweaving a discussion of Chicago's criminal landscape, police department culture and history. Hear about the personal experiences that led Smith to pen "On the Job." Copies of his book will be available for purchase.

View a complete schedule of adult programs at www.oaklawnlibrary.org. For additional information, call 708-422-4990.

Dan Burn, author of *The First 60 Seconds*

Caravan contribute Christmas toy collection to charities

Mount Carmel High School students collected over 1,000 new children's toys this month to two local charities in order to brighten the Christmas season for children in need of Christmas presents.

The students delivered many of the toys to St. Bernard's Children's Hospital, while the remainders of the toys will be donated to the Kevin Dowling Toy Drive.

The student body exceeded its goal of providing one toy per student. The Toy Drive is one of three components of the school's annual Advent Action program. Other phases of the program included a mission collection, where students were asked to donate $2 each, and the food drive which was completed at the end of November.

Goals for the food drive were also exceeded with students donating a total of over 3,100 canned food items to the Maplewood Morgan Park food pantry.

For over ten years Mount Carmel High School students have participated in the Advent Action program. The program reinforces service to others, which is a major element of the school's mission statement.

Mount Carmel High School seniors (from left to right) Mike Husar, Nolan Anderson, Gus Nick, Kevin Schoenfeld, and Tim Mason.

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas welcomes Polish Highlanders Alliance performers to her Annual Holiday Party. Several hundred persons from diverse ethnic and religious groups attended Pappas' Holiday Party, which has become a tradition in the Treasurer's Office at the Cook County Building in downtown Chicago. Guests sang carols as the Treasurer played the keyboard. From left: Magdalena Maka, Treasurer Pappas and Maria Maka.

US Labor Department's OSHA levies $177,000 in fines against Chicago-based highway construction contractor

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited Era Valdivia Contractors Inc., a Chicago-based industrial painting subcontractor doing bridge sandblasting and painting on Interstate 294 and Interstate 55, with alleged willful and serious violations of federal workplace health standards. Proposed fines total $177,000.

After conducted a health inspection, OSHA is alleging three willful violations with a penalty of $168,000 for the company's failure to do an initial assessment to determine if workers may be exposed to lead at or above OSHA defined limits; to collect samples from employees that may have been exposed to hazardous materials during their work shift; and to provide workers with suitable changing areas, as well as to maintain lead free work surfaces, hand washing facilities and clean changing areas for employees. A willful violation is one committed with intentional, knowing or voluntary disregard for the law's requirements, or with plain indifference to employee safety and health.

Era Valdivia Contractors also is being cited for three serious violations with proposed penalties of $9,000 for failure to provide workers with personal protective clothing at no cost; to dispose of contaminated clothing worn during the work shift in enclosed containers, and to maintain OSHA required housekeeping standards. An OSHA violation is serious if death or serious physical harm can result from a hazard an employer knew or should have known exists.

"The importance of protecting workers from material such as lead dust and other hazardous material associated with sandblasting and painting must not be overlooked by employers," said OSHA's Calumet City Area Director Gary Anderson. "There is never an excuse or reason not to ensure that this kind of work activity is performed safely."

Prior to this inspection, Era Valdivia Contractors Inc. had been inspected 23 times by OSHA since 1991, with 17 of those inspections resulting in citations, eight of which involved lead violations.

The company has 15 business days from receipt of these latest citations to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, OSHA's role is to promote safe and healthful working conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, outreach and education. For more information, visit http://www.osha.gov.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8096
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnew@sbcglobal.net

Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

The Patlak Family

Cook County Board of Review race heats up

GOP Candidate Called Out for Being a Democrat

As the election for Commissioner of the Board of Review commences its final stages, several individuals within the GOP are challenging Sean Morrison regarding his true Party affiliation. According to records obtained from the Chicago Board of Elections, Morrison is more than just a supporter of the Democrat Party. Morrison, who was registered to vote in Chicago's 19th ward until late 2008, has donated to the Democrat Party several times over the last two years with the last contribution being in June of 2009. In addition, he has also contributed to a Democrat Aldermanic candidate. While the fact he has taken a Democrat ballot in five of the last seven primaries is shocking, the fact that he has never taken a Republican ballot raises several questions, including ones that relate to why he is running on the Republican ticket. Leading the challenge for transparency of Sean Morrison's true intentions is the GOP endorsed candidate for Commissioner of the Board of Review, Dan Patlak, a long time, well respected Republican leader.

"Sean Morrison is nothing but a 19th ward Chicago Democrat and his record proves it," said Patlak. "Morrison needs to explain to Republican voters why he filed to run in the Republican primary instead of against Brendan Houlihan in the Democrat primary where he belongs, or do the right thing and withdraw from the election" continued Dan Patlak.

Sean Morrison suggests that his contributions from 2005 to 2007 to the RNCC are proof of his Republican credentials. However, it is quite common for owners of companies which are Government Services Administration contractors to contribute to the party of the administration which controls their contracts.

Dan Patlak worked as an analyst at the Board of Review for eight years from 1999 to 2006 specializing in residential, commercial apartment and exempt properties. After completing advanced courses in property appraisal required to become a Certified Illinois Assessing Officer, Dan was elected Assessor of Wheeling Township in 2005 and re-elected in 2009. Mr. Patlak received his real estate broker's license in 1986 and is a Graduate of the Real Estate Institute (GRI). He has been a member of the National and Illinois Associations of Realtors for the past twenty three years. He is also a member of the International Association of Assessing Officers. Mr. Patlak has been a Republican precinct captain for sixteen years, first in Maine Township where he served as the organization's Treasurer and since 2002 in Wheeling Township where he is a Deputy Committeeman. He is also a veteran of many political campaigns having worked on federal, state, county and local races. Dan resides in the Village of Wheeling with his wife Eunice and eight year old son Teddy.

SeniorLife Receives Unity Challenge Grant

CJE SeniorLife was among the recipients of a $10,000 grant from the 2009 Unity Challenge. The Chicago Community Trust's $4 million initiative to expand capacity of nonprofit agencies meeting basic human needs. CJE is one of 45 community organizations collaborating with the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services through Mayor Daley's Well-Being Task Force that will each receive the grant to help seniors obtain public benefits through the BenefitsCheckUp Program.

CJE SeniorLife's Benefits Enrollment Center assists older adults living in Chicago to access federal and state benefits. Using the BenefitsCheckUp program, trained staff members work with older adults to determine whether they qualify for programs that help pay for prescription drugs, medical care, food, property taxes, utilities and more. The process is free and confidential.

Since 2001, more than 2 million people nationally have used the BenefitsCheckUp program to find out that they are eligible for more than $6 billion in public and private benefits. There are programs for people at various income and asset levels. For more information and to schedule an appointment with a CJE-trained staff member, call 773-508-1079.

Throughout the summer, The Chicago Community Trust closely monitored the impact of the economic crisis in the Chicago region. Data collected showed rising foreclosures, increased demand for health care from the uninsured, and more requests for assistance from the Domestic Violence Help Line. Furthermore, the economic crisis has resulted in the state having less revenue and making deep cuts in human services. Some services for seniors were either eliminated or reduced by 50 percent. Based on these findings, the Trust worked with state and city government, as well as key social service agencies, to identify where funding from the Unity Challenge could be used most effectively. Nearly $4 million in grants were made to support 188 organizations to help communities across the region meeting the needs of residents.

For 94 years, The Chicago Community Trust, the region's community foundation, has connected the generosity of donors with community needs by making grants to organizations working to improve metropolitan Chicago. In 2008, the Trust, together with its donors, granted more than $100 million to nonprofit organizations from strengthening community schools to assisting local art programs, from building health centers to helping lives affected by violence, the Trust continues to enhance our region. To learn more, please visit the Trust online at www.cct.org.

CJE SeniorLife is an innovative provider of community-based and residential programs, and services for older adults throughout the Chicago area. Over the past 38 years, CJE's wide range of services has grown to include assisted living, counseling and care management, long-term skilled nursing, Alzheimer's care, home health, wellness programs and much more. CJE is a partner in serving the community, supported by the Jewish United Fund/Jewish Federation. For more information about CJE services, call 773-508-1000 or visit www.cje.net.

Military News

Air Force Airman 1st Class Elisabeth A. Malone (above) graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive eight-week program. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Mary McDonald of Stickney Ave., Bridgeview, Ill. Malone graduated in 2003 from Argo Community High School, Summit, Ill., and received an associate degree in 2007 from Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, Ill.

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Entrance Exam at St. Laurence High School

St. Laurence High School will hold its entrance exam on Saturday, January 9, at 8:00 a.m. for eighth grade boys planning to pursue their secondary education at the Burbank school. The "Home of the Vikings" is located at 77th and Central. Students who are taking the test should enter at the north end of the building, and then report to the foyer area. Also, students should bring two #2 pencils, a calculator, and a $25.00 testing fee. No prior registration fee is required. The testing should be concluded by 11:30 a.m.

More details on the entrance test can be obtained by calling representatives in the St. Laurence Admissions Office at 708-458-6000, ext. 252. In addition, information on St. Laurence, its award-winning academic and athletic programs, financial aid, and transportation can be obtained by visiting the school's website at www.stlaurence.com.

St. Laurence currently educates young men from Chicago and over 50 suburbs. More than 13,700 men have graduated from St. Laurence, and they hold leadership roles in numerous careers and all walks of life. Ninety four percent of St. Laurence's graduating classes attend some of the nation's finest colleges, universities, and military academies.

Eighth grade boys looking to attend the place "Where Leadership Begins" are invited and encouraged to take the school's entrance exam on Saturday, January 9.

Mother MCauley Entrance Exam

The entrance exam at Mother McAuley will be on Saturday, January 9 at 8 a.m. McAuley, located at 3737 West 99th Street, Chicago, will use the ACT developed EXPLORE test, to assess student's academic standing. The EXPLORE test consists of four timed tests: English, Mathematics, Reading and Science. There is a $25 test fee and students should bring two #2 pencils and a pen. Students may use calculators. No pre-registration is necessary.

Mother McAuley prides itself on offering young women a Catholic, liberal arts, education. Students consistently excel in writing and verbal communication, and possess the ability to solve complex problems, to work well with others, and to adapt to changes. Students regularly accept active roles in their community, church and society, and McAuley's educational program enables students to become conscientious leaders who appreciate global diversity.

Academic success is reflected in the outstanding achievements of the Class of 2009 which boasted two valedictorians, one National Merit Finalist, 116 I. S. Presidential Academic Excellence Award recipients and 57 Illinois State Scholars. Members of the Class of 2009 were accepted by some of the most highly selective and prestigious schools across the country.

Students can choose from 32 service, interest and social clubs and organizations, and has set an impressive bar with a strong athletic program featuring 10 interscholastic sports teams.

In fact, many of McAuley's co-curricular activities have attained local and national attention including the Spanish Honor Society earning the 2009 National Chapter of the Year Award; McAuley Science Department was one of only 10 schools in Illinois to receive the BP Alternative Energy grant; and all 13 players on the Varsity Basketball Team were named to the IHSA Academic All-Conference Team two years in a row.

For more information about Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School, 3737 West 99th Street, Chicago, call 773 881 6511 www.mothermcauley.org.

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission recently named 72 Marist High School seniors Illinois State Scholars.

The Illinois State Scholars Program recognizes the top 10% of the state's high school seniors for outstanding academic achievement. Selection is based on SAT, ACT and/or Prairie State Achievement Exam scores, and/or class rank at the end of the junior year.

Marist Illinois State Scholars

First Row From Left: Brian Adams, Samantha Anteczak, Adrian Beltran, Joseph Berglind, Susan Billings, Anna Bokun, Jacob Byrd, Jennifer Caddick, Stephanie Cap, Laura Carroll

Second Row from left: Michael Delaney, Peter Diamond, Nicole Dillon, Anthony Domel, Kelly Droba, Aileen Duffy, Michael Dugan, Sheila Enright, Brittany Elwood

Third Row from left: Megan Favia, Matthew Ferguson, Michelle Flores, Ashley Godin, Jason Groller, Joel Haberkorn, Kerry Hampston, John Harmon, Madelyn Harwood, Lauren Hesselbach

Fourth Row from left: Carl Holst, Rebecca Hrad, James Kane, Steven Kiebles, Dorothy Kowalczyk, Sian Kresse, Mark Krupa, Andrew Lee, Andrew Lynch, Hailey Maddix

Fifth Row from left:

Kyle Maggio, Elizabeth Majewski, Dana Marlin, Katherine Matthews, Claudia Medrano, Laura Mennesheimer, Edward Oldfield, Matthew O'Neill, Laura O'Radnik, Ashley Pajak

Sixth Row from left: Billy Papadopolous, Anna Paterno, Kelly Peterson, Daniel Pitluck, Kelly Plefka, Sean Riggio, Ashley Sellers, Matthew Sevik, Trevor Spencer, Haley Sterete

Seventh Row:

Allison Stevens, Kristen Strobel, Julia Thomas, Patrick Touhy, Kevin Toussaint, Taylor Ventress, Patrick Vogt, Anna Ward, Laura Yach, Kristen Yerkes, Amanda Zubricki

NOT PICTURED

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Mary Kate Mineman

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Village of Oak Lawn to Host Electronic Waste Collection Event with Vintage Tech

Recycling collection for computers and other electronics to be held on January 16th, 2010

The Village of Oak Lawn and its partners will be hosting a one day Electronic Waste Collection Event on Saturday, January 16th, 2010 from 9am to 1pm at the Public Works garage at 5532 98th street. The Village of Oak Lawn, the Oak Lawn Green Team, Vintage Tech Recyclers, the Oak Lawn Lions Club, and the Share Your Soles Foundation are working together to provide a convenient recycling/donation action for residents.

Cleaning or re-organizing that attic, basement or garage during the holiday season? As you are replacing or purging old materials, consider recycling or donation when available and appropriate. Visit the Village of Oak Lawn website, www.oaklawn-il.gov, for more information of what will be collected at this one day event, and alternate ideas for items not included in this event. Anyone looking to discard broken, outdated or unused electronics can take advantage of this free event for safe and proper disposal.

We have expanded this collection to include nearly all types of batteries, including car batteries. Additionally we will be accepting eyeglasses and hearing aids on behalf of the Oak Lawn Lions Club and "gently worn" or new shoe donations for Share Your Soles Foundation.

Cell phones collected will be donated to Cell Phones for Soldiers, www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com, a not for profit that provides minutes for soldiers to call home. To date the Village and the Park District reportedly have donated over 300 phones which created over 18,000 minutes of talk time for our soldiers.

Oak Lawn Lions club donates the used eyeglasses and hearing aids to the Illinois Lions Foundation, http://www.lionsofillinoisfoundation.org/, to assist the visually and hearing impaired.

"Gently worn" or new shoe donations are being collected on behalf of the Share Your Soles Foundation. They are in desperate need of wearable shoes. Worn out shoes that are ready to be recycled are not collected at this event, only "gently worn" shoes that can be worn or sold to cover costs are appropriate. Visit www.shareyoursoles.org for more information.

The Village of Oak Lawn Green Team thanks the residents for all their "Green" actions and making these programs successful. They appreciate resident's "Think Green, Live Green" motto!

For more information about this and other opportunities or resources, please visit our website at www.oaklawn-il.gov, e-mail us at greenteam@oaklawn-il.gov or call us at 708-499-7758.

Residency is not a requirement to participate in our January 16th event. Cost is free. Please join us!

(1) (http://www.epa.gov/waste/conserve/materials/recycling/basic.htm)

St. Rita of Cascia High School seniors named Illinois State Scholars

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) announced its recognition of 19,345 high school students as "2010 Illinois State Scholars." The students hail from 752 schools from all across the State of Illinois. St. Rita's Class of 2010 has 27 Illinois State Scholars out of a total of 168 senior students. Therefore, 16% of the students in the senior class are Illinois State Scholars.

Illinois State Scholar winners rank in the top ten percent of high school seniors. Selection is based on SAT, ACT and/or Prairie State Achievement Exam scores, and/or class rank at the end of the junior year.

"Excellent high school grades are tremendously important for laying the groundwork for future college success," said ISAC Executive Director Andrew Davis. "Illinois State Scholars are the best and the brightest in our state's high schools, and we salute them, their families and their teachers on this achievement."

The following students of St. Rita's Class of 2010 were honored with this special recognition: Austin Bifotto (Century Junior High), Terrence Brennan (St. Bernadette), Joseph Cairo (St. Cajetan), Daniel Dillon (Most Holy Redeemer), Robert Gallik (St. Christina), Ronald Garcia (Marya Yates), Matthew Goosherst (St. John Fisher), Roberto Hernadez (Nativity BVM), John Howard (St. John Fisher), Joseph Jasas (St. Barbara), Thomas Kelly (St. Bernadette), Joseph Loconte (Central Junior High), Mike Lopez (St. Benedict), Matthew McGowan (Most Holy Redeemer), William McGrenera (Queen of Martyrs), Zachary Moore (St. Barnabas), Matthew Murawski (St. Turibius), Bryan Przepiora (St. Daniel the Prophet), David Schrader (Hamlin UGC), John Sheedy (St. Gerald), Kyle Sheehan (St. Linus), Christopher Simms (St. Walter), John Stareevich (Century Junior High), Kyle Stearns (Orland Junior High), Thomas Stjack (Christ the King), Benjamin Velazquez (Kinzie), and Kevin Yerkes (Lenart).

Photo: The St. Rita of Cascia High School Illinois State Scholars were recently announced. St. Rita's Class of 2010 has 27 Illinois State Scholars out of a total of 168 senior students, 16% of the class. Illinois State Scholar winners rank in the top ten percent of high school seniors. This year's honorees stand with St. Rita of Cascia High School Principal Mrs. Sally Deenihan.

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Marist High School holds entrance exam

Marist High School's entrance exam, for current eighth grade students will take place on Saturday, January 9, 2010. Students should arrive at 8:00 a.m. and enter through the gym doors, located at the east end of the school. There is a $25 test fee, however pre-registration is not needed. Students should bring two No. 2 pencils and are asked not to bring a calculator. The approximate dismissal time is 11:45 a.m.

In order to be considered a candidate for 2010-2011 admission at Marist, prospective students must test at Marist High School. For additional information, contact Alex Brown, Director of Admissions, at 773-881-5330.

Founded by the Marist Brothers in 1963, Marist High School, 4200 W. 115th Street in Chicago, is a Catholic college preparatory school serving the young men and women of southwest Chicago and the surrounding suburbs.

Smith Crossing announces $35 million expansion

Increases residences by nearly 60 percent

Plans are underway for Smith Crossing to build a $35 million addition that will increase by nearly 60 percent the number of residences at its Orland Park, Ill., continuing care retirement community (CCRC). This 200,000 square-foot expansion includes additions to every area of the community, from expanded and new common areas to 106 new apartment homes that will offer accommodations at all levels of care. Additionally, 16 existing memory care suites will be converted to skilled nursing care rooms.

For its initial phase of development, Smith Crossing built 260,630 square feet of residences and common areas. Opened in November 2004, this all new retirement community was a $60 million investment by the not-for-profit Smith Senior Living.

"This major expansion makes it possible for us to extend our mission by enriching the lives of many more senior adults through the highest quality of services and the finest residences in all levels of care," says Michael A. Flynn, chief executive officer of Smith Senior Living. "Smith Crossing's significant waiting list for independent living apartments prompted us to take a closer look at this opportunity to extend our services."

Sustained expansion in the last decade has fueled an unprecedented period of growth for Smith Senior Living. In November 2007, Smith Senior Living completed a $66.3 million total redevelopment of Smith Village, its first retirement community that was established in 1924. The expansion of Smith Crossing continues the company's remarkable momentum.

With this newest development project, Smith Crossing is anticipating the skyrocketing need for superior older adults. In the Orland Park area, the senior population is expected to top 67,000 people by 2013. With 36 percent of those households over age 75, the need for services to current and future seniors is greater than ever.

Growth in five years

Currently Smith Crossing has 175 residences with 87 apartments and 10 free-standing villas for independent living, 32 assisted living apartments, 16 suites for Alzheimer's and memory care, and 30 accommodations for skilled nursing care.

This second phase of development adds three new wings to the existing main building. Two new wings to the east will house 76 new independent living apartments and common areas. The new west wing will contain 14 assisted living apartments and residences for 16 more seniors in Alzheimer's and memory support. The latter will replace 16 suites that are being converted into skilled nursing care accommodations.

Residents engaged in planning process

To ensure that the addition meets the needs of seniors today and tomorrow, Smith Crossing consulted experts—its current residents. "Our residents are very engaged in the development of phase two," says Smith Crossing's executive director Frank Guajardo. "We conducted focus groups with current residents to gather ideas to make our community even stronger."

American Legion Auxiliary attends Wreaths Across America

This holiday season, eight members of the Evergreen Park American Legion Auxiliary traveled to the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, Illinois for the "Wreaths Across America" ceremony. The 10 year old cemetery is one of the largest national cemeteries at 982 acres, and 20 thousand are already buried there.

The ceremony is held at every national cemetery in the country including Arlington National Cemetery, and the objective is to have a wreath on every grave. Auxiliary members attending included Louise Cechowski, Rona Cox, Connie Dixon, Roberta Girantineo, Diane Wozniak, Dian Kinahan, Darlene Hudson, Liz Smith, and Mary Alice Stalzle.

If you would like to join the Auxiliary, information about eligibility and membership is available by contacting Dian Kinahan at 708-229-2129.

Christmas spirit at McAuley

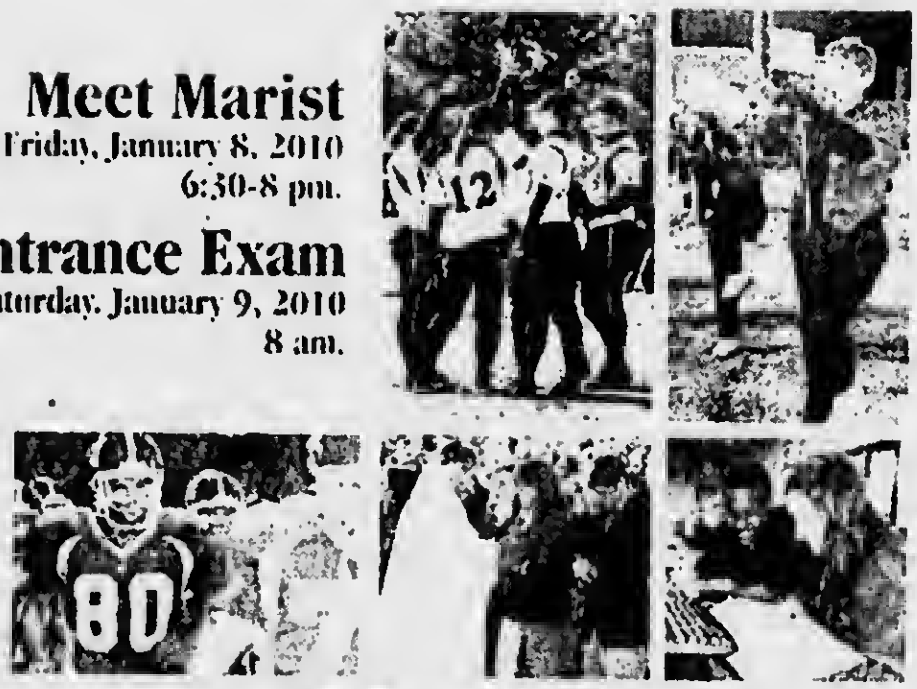
The Mother McAuley Student Council organized its annual all school food drive for Mercy Hospital. Each homeroom, along with several of the staff offices, donated a box of food. In addition, student council sponsored a dress-down-day fundraiser to raise money to purchase perishable items for the food drive. Mercy hospital distributes more than a 1,000 boxes of food to families in the Chicagoland area every Christmas.

Also in connection with Mercy Hospital, students, faculty and staff collected and delivered items for individuals in nursing homes. Donated items included warm socks, slippers, housecoats, sweets, and large print books and magazines.

The giving continued with a Christmas Toy Drive. The Mother McAuley National Honor Society filled more than four carloads with toys and baby items they had collected for the Courage Program in Oak Lawn. The NHS students also helped with Courage's annual Christmas Party. The Courage Program provides assistance to young single women and their children.

Mother McAuley's Student Council sponsored a food drive for Mercy Hospital. Student Council members include (front row, left to right) Paige Travis and Mary Baker of Beverly, Maggie Shea of Evergreen Park, (back row, left to right) Rachel Kinahan of Oak Lawn, Ellen Webb, Ellen Youpel and Mary Kate Back of Beverly, and Clare Nawrocki and Bridget Kobiernicki of Oak Lawn.

Students four years...
brothers and sisters for life!



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Entrance Exam
Saturday, January 9, 2010
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Little Company of Mary Volunteer Celebrates 100 Year Birthday

From streetcars to buses and movie tickets priced from ten cents to nearly ten dollars, many changes have occurred in one century. However, there are a few items that still remain. Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers is celebrating the generosity of longstanding volunteer, Marianne Brashinger 100th birthday.

In the company of her friends at Little Company of Mary Hospital, Marianne Brashinger, of Evergreen Park, celebrated her 100 year birthday on December 19, 2009. As Marianne recounts the many memories she has witnessed, she says she is especially thankful for the generosity she continues to see daily, yet it is she who continues to donate her time.

In the 28 years that Marianne has volunteered at Little Company of Mary, she has donated more than 22,000 hours of help and says she has no plans to stop.

Marianne's volunteerism, began at Little Company of Mary when a friend told her the Hospital was looking for volunteers, and asked Marianne to join her in 1981. Marianne says that her religion inspired and motivated her, so she decided to help others by offering communion to patients at the Hospital. Marianne is a certified Eucharistic Minister at St. Bernadette, in Evergreen Park. She wanted to offer her services to the ill that wanted to receive the sacrament during their stay at the Hospital. Till this day, Marianne continues to punch in at 9 a.m., make her way to the patient units, and obtain a room list to offer communion to those who request it.

Eucharistic ministry is only a part-time job for Marianne though, she spent majority of her 28 years in the Gift Shop at Little Company of Mary. She helped guests find the perfect gift for family members in the Hospital. She said those were some of the most memorable times in her life, with all of the different people she met, stories they shared and mostly the friendships that were made.

Marianne has been the recipient of several community awards including Evergreen Park Hall of Fame, Most Outstanding Senior Citizen Award, the Marge Sturm Award, the Sheriff's Senior Medal of Honor Award, and the LCM Auxiliary Award.

At 100 years young, she shows no signs of slowing down! In fact, in her limited spare time, she crochets knit hats and blankets for newborn babies at the Hospital as well as lap robes for wheelchairs that she donates to the Evergreen Park Community Center where she also volunteers her time. At the Center, she assists with daily activities, such as making crafts with others whose ages normally fall under her own, which she says, doesn't bother her. Marianne adds, "I enjoy being with people."

Even in celebration of her birthday, Marianne says there's no retiring at home any time soon. "Some times I think about it," Marianne says, "But the doctor says, keep doing what your doing." Marianne's friend, Clara Rock, a fellow volunteer at Little Company of Mary adds, "We always look forward to working with Marianne, we are a team, it's what keeps us going."

Marianne remembers when she broke her hip four years ago and couldn't volunteer for a couple of months. "My mailbox was filled with greeting cards. I didn't realize how many friends I had." Marianne says that celebrating her 100-year birthday feels the same as any other birthday, but offered words of advice to others on staying active, "Volunteer."

Marianne Brashinger, resident of Evergreen Park volunteer for 30 years at Little of Company Hospital

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Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce seeking nominations for 2009 Business Awards

The Chamber is accepting nominations for its 2009 Business Awards. Recipients will be recognized during the February 9, 2010 Membership Luncheon, held at Francesca's on 95th, 6248 W. 95th Street. Nomination forms are available on the Chamber website at www.oaklawnchamber.com. All nominations are due to the Chamber office no later than Friday, January 22, 2010. Self nominations are acceptable. The awards are as follow.

Outstanding Chamber Member & Business Person. The nominee must be a Chamber member in good standing who has an operating history of at least five years and demonstrates excellence in business practices, leadership and positive revenue growth. This member business also must demonstrate a commitment to the improvement of the Oak Lawn business community and the betterment of the Village.

Outstanding Chamber Outreach Award. The nominee must be a Chamber member in good standing who demonstrates a commitment to the social and economic development of the Chamber through participation at and financial support of Chamber programs and events. This member also must show excellence in business practices, leadership and positive revenue growth.

To obtain a nomination form visit www.oaklawnchamber.com, or call the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300.

School Football Coaches Association All-State Team

De La Salle Institute proudly announces that senior student-athlete D.J. Bland (Dolton) has been chosen to the 2009 Class 6A Illinois High School Football Coaches Association All-State Team.

D.J. Bland

Bland and his teammates on the 2009 Class 6A IHSFCA All-State Team were given their awards and recognized at halftime of the Class 6A state championship game played at the University of Illinois' Memorial Stadium in Champaign on Thanksgiving weekend.

Bland, a wide receiver/cornerback for the Meteors, was chosen the Chicago Catholic League White MVP after finishing with 31 catches for 599 yards and eight touchdowns.

Defensively, he added 53 tackles and eight interceptions, three of which were returned for touchdowns. Bland also added 11 Kickoff returns for 196 yards and one touchdown, while also blocking two punts (one for a touchdown) and adding another touchdown on a punt return.

Along with his success on the football field, Bland also does well in the classroom, keeping a 3.059 grade-point average and ranking No. 65 in the 178-member Class of 2010 at De La Salle's Institute Campus for Young Men.

De La Salle congratulates Bland on his impressive achievements and wishes him every future success.

De La Salle Institute is an independent Catholic secondary school rooted in the tradition of Christian Education begun by St. John Baptist de La Salle. Founded in 1889, its mission has been, and is, to foster a desire for excellence in education. Young people from a variety of ethnic and economic backgrounds are given the opportunity to fully develop their abilities so they may be active, contributing members of our complex changing society.

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Oak Ridge Elementary School is located at 8791 W 103rd Street, Palos Hills IL 60465

The fourth grade class at Oak Ridge Elementary School created stockings and stuffed them with holiday greetings and treats for residents of Palos Hills Extended Care on Tuesday, December 22

All 130 students of the fourth grade and their five teachers participated in the project which provided holiday greetings and cheer to residents of the nursing center More than 120 residents received a handmade stocking and a handmade holiday card from the fourth graders

Crisis Center of South Suburbia's Heart to Heart Extravaganza

The Black Tie Optional affair is scheduled for Saturday, February 20, 2010 from 5:30 pm until 11:00 pm Patricia Leoni will be recognized as the 2010 Dianne Masters Award Recipient, Kathy Garcia and Carol Kearney the Courage Awards and Christ Advocate Medical Center the Corporate Recognition Award Tickets are $75 per person - which includes a two hour open bar, dinner, silent auction, live auction and music For more information view our website www crisisctr org, contact Janice at jlaging@crisisctr org or call Janice at 708-429-7255, ext 126

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January 9, 2010

7:45 AM
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8:00 AM
Entrance Exam

11:30 AM
Pizza for test takers

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Students who are not admitted to Maria High School will be refunded the $25 Exam fee.

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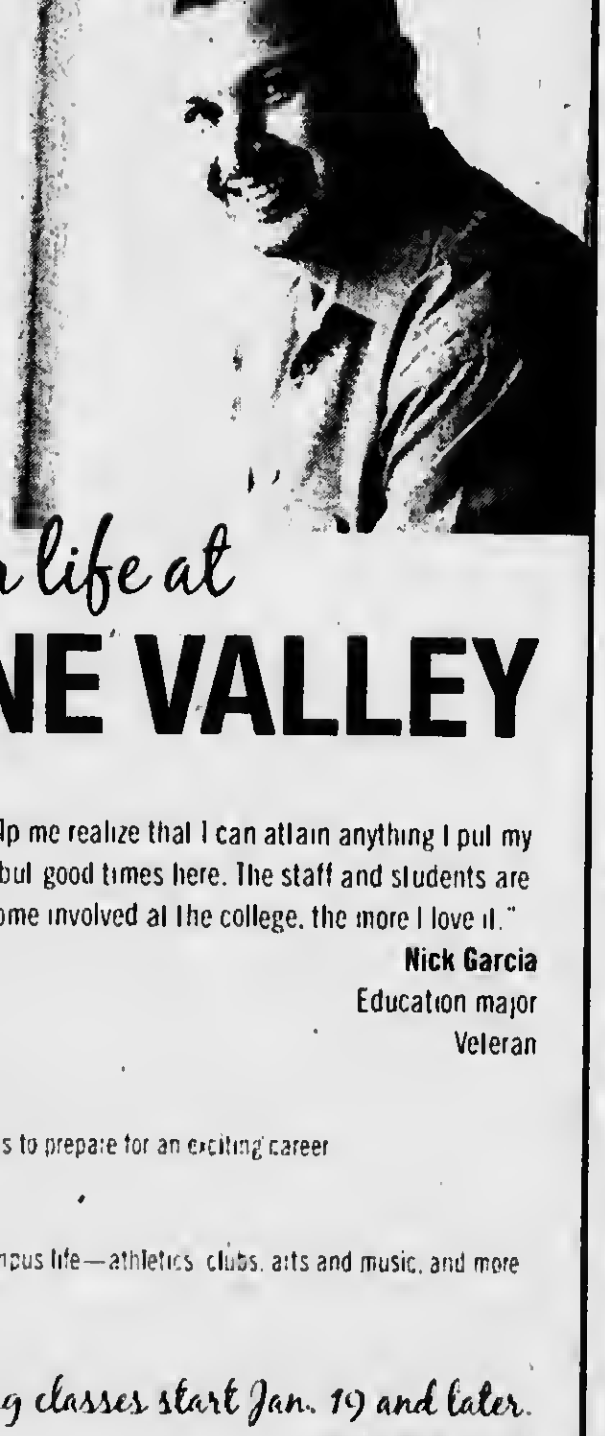

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Northlight Theatre continues its 35th anniversary season with Awake and Sing!

Northlight Theatre, under the direction of Artistic Director BJ Jones and Executive Director Timothy J. Evans, continues its 35th season with Awake and Sing!, Clifford Odets' Tony Award-winning play, directed by Amy Morton. The production runs January 21- February 28, 2010, at Northlight Theatre, 9501 Skokie Blvd in Skokie .

In a cramped Bronx tenement during the Great Depression, a working-class Jewish family copes with financial hardship even as they dream of a brighter future. Bessie Berger's fierce determination keeps her family afloat, whatever the cost. Gritty, passionate, funny and heartbreaking, Odets' 1935 masterpiece (and Tony Award winner for best revival in 2006) beautifully captures both the hopes and the struggles of an unforgettable American family.

"Awake and Sing! is an American classic, written in the depths of the Depression and offering hope and determination through every momentary ebb of the national psyche," comments BJ Jones. "It seemed the perfect time to revive this play, featuring Northlight's first Artistic Director Mike Nussbaum, and with Amy Morton offering a fresh directorial vision of gritty determination and familial sacrifice through the darkest of times. The shot of perseverance that Odets offers us is the theatrical vaccine we all need in these troubling times."

The production features Audrey Francis' (Hennie Berger), Keith Gallagher (Ralph Berger), Tim Gittings (Schlosser), Cindy Gold (Bessie Berger), Peter Kevoian (Myron Berger), Loren Lazerine (Uncle Morty), Mike Nussbaum (Jacob), Demetrios Troy (Sam Feinschriber) and Jay Whittaker (Moe Axelrod).

The designers are John Musial (Set Design), Jacqueline Firkins (Costume Design), Keith Parham (Lighting Design) and Mikhail Fiksel (Sound Design). The stage manager is Rita Vreeland and the dramaturg is Meghan Beals McCarthy.

This production is sponsored in part by The Lehman Family American Experience Series and Harris Bank.

Goodman Theatre presents Hughie and Krapp's Last Tape January 16 through February 21, 2010

In Hughie, high-rolling gambler Erie (Brian Dennehy) and Hughie, the credulous night clerk at a single-occupancy hotel, were confidants. Hughie admired Erie for his bold lifestyle and Erie considered Hughie his good luck charm. When Hughie dies unexpectedly, Erie's luck changes for the worse and he finds himself in dire straits. Then Erie meets the new night clerk (Joe Grifasi), who reminds him enough of Hughie that he takes the gamble that his luck is about to change. Krapp's Last Tape is Samuel Beckett's classic one-act, one-man show. Every year on his birthday, Krapp (Brian Dennehy) records the important—and the banal—moments of the last year. As he prepares to record a new tape on his 69th birthday, he begins to listen to his archives. This immersion in his own history leads Krapp to question, with growing regret, whether his present lives up to his past. To learn more about Hughie and Krapp's Last Tape, visit www.ExploreTheGoodman.org.

Tickets to Hughie/Krapp's Last Tape ($25 – $83) are available for purchase at Goodman Theatre.org, by calling 312.443.3800 or visiting the box office (170 North Dearborn). Mezztix are half-price mezzanine tickets available at 12 noon at the box office, and at 10am online (promo code MEZZTIX) day of performance.

Left to right, Heidi Kettenring as Eliza and Kevin Gudahl as Higgins

Marriott Resort in Lincolnshire now has My Fair Lady

by Alan Bresloff

"Classic Musical Theater". These are words that make my spine shiver, as these are the musicals that I was raised on- shows like "Oklahoma", "Damn Yankees", "West Side Story", "Camelot" and of course "My Fair Lady", the strong musical based on the work of George Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion", that tells the story of a professor (Higgins) is played by Kevin Gudahl, who has played the role before and now has matured into an actor who "owns" the role. Where he began doing this character in a talk sing mode, he now hits the notes and does so with a smile.) who places a bet that he can take a lowly flower girl Eliza Doolittle, played deliciously by one of my favorite musical actresses, Heidi Kettenring) and make her appear to be a princess.

In the original work, the task is completed and although the professor has great feelings for his student, at the end she runs off with a young man who has never worked a day in his life and now she will have to support him and the curtain ends with the professor laughing loudly. When the play was transformed into a musical (in 1956) Alan Jay Lerner (Book and Lyrics) decided that there needed to be a better, more satisfying ending. One that would allow the theater audiences to leave happier than when they arrived and so there is indeed an ending where Eliza, the student, comes back to the professor and the lights dim as she gets him his slippers. The story is one that has withstood years and years of remounts on Broadway and London.

The songs are jewels (music by Frederick Loewe)- "Wouldn't It Be Loverly", "The Rain in Spain", "I Could Have Danced All Night", "With A Little Bit of Luck" and "Get Me To The Church On Time" are songs that people have been singing for years and often they do not even know where they originated. One of the songs, one that people do know is from this show is "On The Street Where You Live", a love song that allows us inside the head of one Freddy Einsford-Hill, a young "aristocrat" who has no skills and is unemployable but social-izes well.

When he expresses his love to Eliza she feels the need to be there for him, despite the consequences. This role is one of the smaller ones, but has great importance to the plot- having a Freddy that doesn't show his love and devotion along with his strikingly good looks can only take away from the story. In this production, Director Dominic Missimi has cast Max Quinlan who not only looks the part but can sing this lovely song hitting every note and never falling out of English Accent- Max, you did it!. Succeed, you did! The entire cast of this production, although small in numbers is quite large in talent.

The ensemble members go from character to character and costume to costume as well as bring furniture on and off between scenes. Ten ensemble members take on all sorts of roles, so it is my pleasure to give each and everyone a bravo- Nicolas Sandys, Emily Thompson, Joseph Tokarz, Christina Myers, Roger Mueller, Ericka Mae, Christian Libonati, Brandon Koller, George Keating and Glory Kissel .

The other main characters: (Catherine Lord as Mrs. Pearce (Higgins's housekeeper), Ann Whitney as Mrs. Higgins (Henry's mother), the always reliable David Lively as Colonel Pickering and Don Forston having a ball as Alfred Doolittle, Eliza's father. This is one energetic cast and under Missimi's solid direction and solid choreography by Matt Rafferty who uses the small in-the-round- stage to full advantage this is a slick production worth of comparison to any production we have seen in Chicago over the years.

Michael Mahler's musical direction, Nancy Missimi's wonderful costumes, Diane Ferry Williams' lighting and the set by Thomas M. Ryan were the side dishes to make this recipe complete. If you can compare a theatrical production to a dinner, which I often find myself doing because of the ingredients and the stirring (direction) and the final presentation (not to mention the taste), this production would be a five star dining experience that would have to be Zagat recommended.

"My Fair Lady" will continue at the Marriott Theatre in Lincolnshire through February 14th (Valentine's Day) with performances as follows: Wednesday 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m. Saturday 4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sunday 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Holiday schedules differ so check www.MarriottTheatre.com or call the box office for the special schedule. Tickets are $45 and there are student and senior discounts available (not on Friday and Saturday night) Dinner packages are available, so call the box office at 847-634-0200 or www.Marriottheatre.com Lots of free parking on the Marriott Resort of Lincolnshire located on Marriott Drive just East of Milwaukee Ave and south of Half Day Rd., (rte 22). Marriott is easy to reach and fun to experience. Come early and visit one of the lounges or restaurants. In the warmer months, you can experience the resort feel of Lincolnshire.

Steppenwolf Theatre presents The Brother/Sister Plays

Steppenwolf Theatre Company continues its 2009-2010 season, an exploration of the theme of belief, with The Brother/Sister Plays: In the Red and Brown Water, The Brothers Size and Marcus; Or the Secret of Sweet by Tarell Alvin McCraney, directed by ensemble member Tina Landau from January 21 – May 23, 2010 in Steppenwolf's Upstairs Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted St. The Brother/Sister Plays will be presented in repertory, with In the Red and Brown Water on one evening in rotation with the two shorter plays, The Brothers Size and Marcus. The plays can be experienced in any order, although chronologically In the Red or Brown Water comes first, followed by The Brothers Size and then Marcus.

Location: Steppenwolf Upstairs Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted St Dates: Previews, Jan. 21 – 30, 2010. Open-ing: Sunday, January 31 at 2 p.m., 6 p.m. Regular Run: February 2 – May 23, 2010

Ticket prices: Previews: $20-$48 Regular Run: $20-$70 Twenty $20 tickets are available at Audience Services beginning at 11:00 a.m. on the day of each performance (1:00 p.m. for Sunday performances). Half-price tickets are available one hour before each show. Student discounts available.

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Obituary

Eric J. Martinez, at the age of 25, loving son of Juan and Carol [nee Hom], adored brother of Tim [Tara], Carissa [Michael Colander], Magdalena [Dr. Cristobal Robledo], Dan and Michael, proud uncle of Christopher, Madelme and Jonathan.

Dedicated Employee and volunteer at Little Company of Mary Hospital and Inspirational Special Olympic Athlete. Was a residence of Evergreen Park, IL and was born in Guatemala, Mexico.

Visitation was at the Kosary Funeral Home, in Evergreen Park, IL. Mass at the St. John Fisher Church. Interment St. Mary Cemetery. For further information please call 708-499-3223.

Record Show

Record Collectors Show
Saturday, January 16th
9AM-3PM
Double Tree Hotel
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50th Year Reunion needs your help

If anyone knows the where abouts of the following people, it would complete the list of Graduates for our 50th Year reunion of the 1960 Class from Loretto Englewood H.S.

Eileen Heilbronner (Malzone)
Margie Johnston (Hildebrand)
Mary Ann Lain (Hackler)
Marilyn Murray (Cox)
Barbara Mutter (Young)
Maria del Carmen Rangel (Zinzer)
Kathleen Reynolds (Macaitis)
Judith Sargent (Breen)
Yvonne Sarvey
Carmen Torres
Donna Vanek (Konecki)

The Reunion is May 2, 2010 in Wheaton, IL.
Please contact, Annette Stella Dixon 312-624-8990

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Far South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Forest / Orland Park / Tinley Park

Volume 8 Number 1

January 5, 2010

Tinley Park approves tax levy

By Matt Mayer

The Village board approved an ordinance at the Dec. 15 Tinley Park Board of Trustees meeting levying taxes for corporate purposes for the village for the current fiscal year from May 2009 to April 13, 2010. The property tax levy for 2009 is $22,126,258, which represents 4.9 percent over the previous year's extension in the total amount. However, the tax impact per household is expected to drop slightly due to the expected increases in Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) brought to the village through growth and development. The levy amount is the net amount due to abatements of debt service considered in two ordinances and equates to a total of $2,317,507.50.

If these funds were not abated, the total required would have been $24,443,766, which would represent a 15.9 percent increase. The amount of the levy was determined at a finance committee meeting held on Dec. 1, 2009. The village portion of the levy is $16,889,341 and the library portion is $5,236,917. Being that the levy increase is less than 5 percent of the prior year's extended levy, a truth in taxation notice and public hearing was not required.

The following is a note regarding the new Illinois law, which joins 18 other states and took effect on New Year's Day. It is now illegal to compose, send or read text messages, instant messages or e-mails on a cell phone as well as surfing the Internet while driving. The law includes PDA's, mobile and portable computers. GPS systems however are exempted. Law enforcement agencies however would have preferred the law to cover GPS systems as well due to one looking at the map and keying in their information, which they feel at times is worse than texting. Using a cell phone without a hands free device while driving through a school zone or a construction zone is also now illegal. Violators will receive a $75 citation for the first offence. Police will also have the ability to subpoena phone records after a serious accident to determine if the driver was texting prior to the crash. Secretary of State Jesse White along with all law enforcement agencies fervently believe drivers following this law will greatly reduce traffic accidents and fatalities. As the old adage goes the life you save may be your own.

Early voting for the February 2 Gubernatorial Primary Election will be available for all registered suburban Cook County voters January 11 to 28, 2010 at Orland Park's Frederick L. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. Further information is available by calling the Village Clerk's Office at 708-403-6150

Early Voting Comes to Orland Park January 11

Voter Registration for February 2 Primary Ends January 5

The Orland Park Village Clerk's Office is gearing up for its Early Voting Program for the February 2 Gubernatorial Election. Early voting will be available January 11 to January 28 at Orland Park's Frederick L. Owens Village Hall.

"We're getting the information out now so that everyone who wants to vote in the Gubernatorial Primary Election is aware of the important dates coming up," said Orland Park Village Clerk David Maher.

Voter registration for the 2010 Gubernatorial Primary Election closes on January 5 at 5:00 p.m. Those registering must be United States citizens and at least eighteen years old on or before February 2, 2010.

"Young adults who will turn eighteen between January 5 and February 2 may register to vote now because they will be eligible to vote by Election Day," Maher explained.

Voter registration is available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Orland Park has again been named an early voting site for the February 2 Gubernatorial Primary Election. Early voting at Orland Park's Frederick L. Owens Village Hall will be offered for all registered Cook County voters January 11 through January 28, 2010.

"We've had a great response each time we've hosted early voting," said Orland Park Deputy Village Clerk Joe LaMargo. "Having more than one day to cast their ballots makes it more convenient for all voters," he added, noting that Orland Park has been one of the top Cook County early voting sites since the Cook County Clerk's Office began the program.

Early voting in Orland Park will be available January 11 through January 28, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Early voting will also be available on Saturday, January 16 and 23 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

"We were very pleased with our numbers from past Early Voting Programs and we're happy to again offer this service for all suburban Cook County residents," Maher said. "You don't have to live in Orland Park to vote early here. You simply must be a registered suburban Cook County voter," he added.

Offices being considered in 2010 include U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Comptroller, State Treasurer, some State Senators, State Representatives, Cook County Board President, Cook County Commissioners, Cook County Assessor, Cook County Clerk, Cook County Treasurer, Cook County Sheriff, Appellate and Circuit Court Judges, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioners, Regional Superintendent of Schools and Democratic, Republican and Green Party Township Committeemen.

"An excuse is not required to vote early," Maher said. "This is a convenient service for the voters of suburban Cook County," the clerk said.

To vote early, individuals must be registered to vote and have a government issued identification card, i.e., a valid driver's license or state identification card.

In person absentee voting is no longer available in the Orland Park Village Clerk's Office; however, applications to receive absentee ballots by mail are available or can be downloaded from the Clerk's Office area on the village's website at www.orlandpark.il.us.

"Absentee voting is not available at the Clerk's Office. This is why we're encouraging suburban Cook County voters to take advantage of the Early Voting Program," Maher said.

A legitimate excuse is required to vote absentee by mail. "Parents whose kids are away at college can ask that an absentee ballot be mailed to them," LaMargo said. Absentee voting is also convenient for homebound voters.

Orland Park's Village Clerk's Office is located off the main lobby of the Frederick L. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. Along with voter registration and being the official record keeper for the village, the Clerk's Office includes the village's Office of Special Services.

"People can apply for and have their pictures taken for passports, seek veterans' assistance and register to vote all in one place," LaMargo said.

Further information or to request that an absentee ballot be mailed to a Cook County voter, either homebound or out of town is available by calling the Orland Park Village Clerk's Office at (708) 403-6150.

Oak Forest Park District announces youth softball registration

The Oak Forest Park District Girl's Softball Association will be taking registration on Saturday, January 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration will be at the Central Park Building, 15601 S. Central Ave. Girl's ages 5 yrs. through 18 yrs. are eligible to register. Registration fees are $70.00 res./ $80.00 non-res. Petites cost is $60.00 for residents and $70.00 for non-residents. Every child must present a birth certificate at registration. Girls who played in the 2009 season will return to their team. For more information please contact Stephanie (708) 687-7270 ext. 118.

E-mail address: vvnew @sbcglobal.net

South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Volume 11 Number 1

January 5, 2010

Palos Park approves tax levy

By Matt Mayer

Officials at the Palos Park Board of Trustees meeting approved a tax levy ordinance for 2009 in the amount of $1,721,894.00 of which $1,352,309.00 is the village levy and $369,585.00 is the library levy as well as a request to appoint a freedom of information officer. An ordinance amending a portion of a chapter and section of the municipal code in regards to development land donation and execution fees was approved as well as a resolution to make certain closed session meeting minutes available for public inspection- second review.

The village board approved the adoption of a comprehension plan as well as the appointment of Mike Carroll as Administration Adjudication Hearing Officer. A request to go out to bid for the proposed water reservoir expansion was approved as well as revisions to the snow and ice control policy. A resolution was also approved commending Laverne Kozal for 25 years of service with the village as well as a payment to Patse Bus Service for $132.00.

Prior to the meeting, a public hearing was held regarding truth in taxation

The following is a note regarding the new Illinois law, which joins 18 other states and took effect on New Year's Day. It is now illegal to compose, send or read text messages, instant messages or e-mails on a cell phone as well as surfing the Internet while driving. The law includes PDA's mobile and portable computers. GPS systems however are exempted. Law enforcement agencies however would have preferred the law cover GPS systems as well due to one looking at the map and keying in their information, which they feel at times is worse than texting. Using a cell phone with out a hands free device while driving through a school zone or a construction zone is also now illegal. Violators will receive a $75 citation for the first offence. Police will also have the ability to subpoena phone records after a serious accident to determine if the driver was texting prior to the crash. Secretary of State Jessie White along with all law enforcement agencies fervently believe drivers following this law will greatly reduce traffic accidents and fatalities. As the adage goes, the life you save may be your own

Breakfast with the Experts, hosted by Saint Xavier University

The weather outside was cold enough for hockey, but participants at the first 2009-10 Breakfast with the Experts event at Saint Xavier University were talking baseball with Brooks Boyer, vice president and chief marketing officer for the Chicago White Sox. The event was held Dec. 16 at the University's Chicago campus.

More than 50 local business people and community members attended Boyer's speech, titled "The Business of Baseball." Boyer delved into popular White Sox promotional events, creating a successful sports entertainment experience and new marketing strategies for the Sox, and answered questions from audience members. Breakfast with the Experts brings notable business, community and civic leaders to the south side to share insights, experience and industry knowledge with local business people. The breakfasts are interactive and designed to engage all participants through networking opportunities, a keynote address and a question-and-answer session. The series is sponsored by Saint Xavier University and the Beverly Area Planning Association.

Mesirow Financial Chairman and CEO James C. Tyree will speak at the next Breakfast with the Experts event on Wed., Feb. 3, 2010.

Tickets are $20 for the general public and $15 for BAPA Members. Space is limited and reservations are required. For more information or to buy tickets, please contact BAPA at (773) 233-3100 or visit www.bapa.org, keyword BAPA event tickets. To suggest a speaker or to learn about sponsorship opportunities, please call 773-298-3311 or email to specialevents@sxu.edu.

(From left) Chicago White Sox Chief Marketing Officer Brooks Boyer, Vice President for University Relations Robert Tenezar, Interim President and Provost Angela Durante, Ph.D., and Beverly Area Planning Association Executive Director Matt Walsh.

Worth Park District announces upcoming schedule

Jazzercise

When you love your workout, results come easy. Jazzercise combines elements of jazz dance, training, Pilates, yoga and more to create an effective exercise program for people of all ages and fitness levels. Weights are optional. Jazzercise meets on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays from 9:25 – 10:25 am to the Worth Park District's Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit). The monthly Easy Fit Ticket price is $ 36.10 or $ 26.10 for seniors. There is a $ 35.00 joining fee. For more information, call Karen at (708) 790-6286 or karenzjazz@comcast.net.

Senior Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch Returns to the Worth Park District. Take a trip with us to local restaurants each month. Enjoy a variety of options. Indulge in your own taste and spend as much or as little as you would like! Let us do the driving as you relax with your friends. Menu will be available at time of registration. Pay for your portion of the check at time of trip. Our January Lunch Bunch will be on Wednesday, January 13 from 10:30 am - 2:00 PM. We will be dining at Sweet Tomato's. The cost for transportation is $ 8.00 resident and $ 12.00 non resident. Deadline to register is January 6. The trip leaves from the Worth Park District's Terrace Centre.

Harley-Davidson Museum

A trip with the Worth Park District to the 130,000 square-foot Harley-Davidson Museum. Visitors will get a feel for the freedom, camaraderie and pride that Harley-Davidson riders experience every time they fire up their motorcycles. Trip includes transportation and admission to the museum. This trip is on Thursday, January 14 from 9:00 am – 6:00 PM. The cost is $ 80.00 per person. The bus will leave from the Alsip Park District (11521 S. Kostner). The deadline date to register is January 4.

Teddy Bear Picnic

Enjoy a mid-morning snack, stories, songs and more at this fun picnic! Bring your favorite stuffed friend along to the Worth Park District. We will go on a "bear hunt" and do a fun craft. Parents are required to stay with your child. The picnic date is Saturday, January 16 from 10:00 – 11:00 am for ages 2 - 4. The cost is $ 5.00 residents and $ 7.50 non-residents. The picnic will take place at the Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit).

Kids Day Out

Out of school and need something to do? Join the Worth Park District's "Kids Day Out" program for a day of entertainment and fun. We will be going different field trips every day that the District 127 schools have a day off. The fee includes transportation, party package (which may include tokens, area admission and/or ride coupons) and lunch. Additional money for extra tokens or ride coupons may be brought if desired, but are at the responsibility of the child. Children will be off premise from 9:00 am – 4:00 PM. Our first "Kids Day Out" will be on Monday, January 18. We will be traveling to Chuck E. Cheese in Tinley Park . The program runs from 7:00 am – 6:00 PM for a cost of $ 35.00 for ages 5 – 12. Registration deadline is January 11. Register at the Worth Park District's Terrace Centre.

Worth Park District's Winter/Spring 2010 Brochure is now available. Registration has started for all programs and events. For more information, please call the Worth Park District at (708) 448-7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org

Worth Park District is located at 11500 S. Beloit (3 Blocks West of Harlem on 115th Street).

E-mail address: vnew@sbcglobal.net

B-MAC EDITION

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 Number 1

January 5, 2010

Alsip approves tax levy

ByMatt Mayer

The village board at the Alsip Board of Trustees meeting approved a tax abatement ordinance for the 2009 real estate tax levy. The bonds are as follows: series 1996, series 1997; series 2000; series 2002; series 2003;A series 2005A; series 2007A; series 2009A; and series 2009B. An ordinance levying taxes for the general corporate and special purposes fund for fiscal year beginning May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010 was also approved.

An ordinance to award a contract to Alpha Construction Co for the General Obligatioon Bonds Phase I for various resurfacing projects for $626,191.75 was approved as well as the IDOT Motor Fuel Tax allotment for $53,191.75. A refund request of $10.00 to Codilis and Associates, Burr Ridge, IL for the overpayment of transfer tax stamp was also approved.

The village board approved an ordinance amending the prohibited uses in the B-1 Business district and the special uses in the B-2 business district to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review and a public hearing. A request from J P Gallagher Building Corporation to refer an application for a resubdivision of three lots into four to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review and a public hearing was also approved.

A request to renew the workers compensation for the state public risk fund for December 15, 2009 to December 15, 2010 for $441,776 was approved as well as changing the verbiage of a chapter and article of municipal code regarding water and sewer rates.

The following is a note regarding the new Illinois law, which joins 18 other states and took effect on New Year's Day. It is now illegal to compose, send or read text messages, instant messages or e-mail on a cell phone as well as surfing the Internet while driving. The law includes PDAs mobile and portable computers. GPS systems however are exempted. Law enforcement agencies however would of preferred the law to cover GPS systems as well due to one looking at the map and keying in their information. Which they feel at times is worse than texting. Using a cell phone with out a hands free device while driving through a school zone or a construction zone is also now illegal. Violators will receive a $75 citation for the first offence. Police will also have the ability to subpoena phone records after a serious accident to determine if the driver was texting prior to the crash. Secretary of State Jessie White along with all law enforcement agencies fervently believe drivers following these laws will greatly reduce traffic accidents and fatalities. As the old adage goes the life you save may be your own.

Community Alert

The Blue Island Police Department has reported several commercial burglaries to businesses located on Western Avenue, where cash registers were broken into at night. A suspect has been arrested, however, caution is urged. Leave lights on at night and do not leave money or cash registers in view from outside windows. Call 708-385-1313 to report any suspicious persons.

13th ESC Wins Amazing Race Charity Run

By Sgt. Ryan Twist

Service members ran a race, played golf blindfolded and choked down the "nastiest" food the chow hall had to offer Dec. 5 at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, to raise money for the Combined Federal Campaign – Overseas.

Thirteen four member teams participated in the CFC Amazing Race, to compete to have a $300 check donated to the CFC in their name. The CFC supports charitable organizations through philanthropy by federal employees. Senior Master Sgt. Bryan Shipman, a superintendent of protocol with the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing and a Norfolk, Va., native, served as the Air Force CFC representative. "We noticed there were no combined events with the Army or anyone else," he said. "We teamed with the 13th ESC and the 194th Engineer Brigade and we came together with this alternate Amazing Race event." In the past few weeks, the representatives worked together to plan activities and events for teams to raise awareness and money for the CFC, said Shipman.

Shipman went on to explain that the planners coordinated the events, set up the stations and made sure there was continuity with the food, event times and reserved locations. Master Sgt. Kimberly D. Bergman, a 13th ESC career counselor and a Chicago native, said no other CFC event has had all the major commands from their base organized together. Instead of commanders doing their own events for CFC, they came together as a whole – Army and Air Force, said Bergman.

"It was an awesome time," she said. "Everyone brought their own strengths ... which [were] reflected in the different challenges that we had." The 13th ESC (pictured above) created a crossword puzzle event, testing competitors' knowledge of Army and Air Force history, said Bergman. The 194th Engineers and the JBB Fire Department hosted department specific challenges. "It was a lot of work on our part but we enjoyed it and it seems all the participants enjoyed it," she said. Spc. Martha A. Bolt, a paralegal specialist with the 13th ESC and a Sussex, N.J., native, said the event was fun and helped the service members get a good workout. Bolt, who was on the Urban Logistickers team, said the hardest part of the event was the eating competition at the Mirage dining facility. She drew a number and had to eat banana pudding with raisins. Other numbered items included sardines, refried beans and tuna. Her teammate, Maj. Erik A. Enyart, a brigade aviation officer with the 13th ESC and a Radcliff, Ky., native, said blind-golfing and chow-hall eating were the hardest parts of the event. Spc. Kimberly N. Dover, a medic with the 248th Area Support Medical Company out of Marietta, Ga., with the 61st Multifunctional Medical Brigade and a Cartersville, Ga., native, won third place with the Sickcall Rangers and said the food challenge was not her favorite part either.

"I'm just a really picky eater ... and it was gross," she said. "None of it was really difficult; that was just the nastiest part." Dover said pushing and pulling water hoses at the fire department was the highlight of the competition.

The event mirrored a scavenger hunt combined with a 5 km race, said Dover. The activities were set up at locations throughout JBB and teams had to accomplish each task before they could head to the final destination, the Morale, Welfare and Recreation center east. "It was fun and it got everybody out here on their Saturday morning, instead of sitting in their [bedroom] doing nothing," she said.

In the end, service members came together and had a blast to support a great cause, which Bergman said was all she could ask for. "I think it was great. I think CFC is very important. I'm looking forward to perhaps maybe doing another one before we get out of here."

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas welcomes Polish Highlanders Alliance performers to her Annual Holiday Party. Several hundred persons from diverse ethnic and religious groups attended Pappas' Holiday Party, which has become a tradition in the Treasurer's Office at the Cook County Building in downtown Chicago. Guests viewed more than 80 Christmas trees decorated by different ethnic groups of Cook County and sang carols as the Treasurer played the keyboard. From left: Magdalena Maka, Treasurer Pappas and Maria Maka.

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VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Lawn / Burbank / Hickory Hills / Evergreen Park

Volume 36 Number 14

January 19, 2010

Oak Lawn approves legal billing inquiry

By Matt Mayer

The village board at the Jan. 12 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting approved a request to retain the law firm of Odelson and Sterk for a maximum of $25,000 by a 4-1 vote - Trustee Carol Quinlin dissented and Trustee Jerry Hurkees was absent. This law firm was hired for the purpose of reviewing the legal charges, procedures and practices as well as labor relations matters, which involves two law firms which Mayor Dave Heilmann Unity Party hired after he won the 2005 election. The legal bills will essentially be the focal point of the inquiry. The two firms involved are Tressler, Soderstrom, Maloney and Priess as well as from attorney Norm Chimenti from Martin, Craig, Chester and Sonnenschein. Heilmann suggested an avenue to avoid using public funds to pay for the inquirers.

Heilmann suggested that the board first identify specific legal bills and cases and then question its third party administrator, a firm that the village pays to review bills to determine how any over billing may have occurred. Let's at least see what the legal firm will do prior to spending the money, Heilmann told trustees. Trustees responded by saying the village has suffered from bad, costly, legal representation. Trustee Bob Streit said lets take a look on behalf of the taxpayer. The board hopes to have the inquiry completed by February.

American Legion Auxiliary to hold monthy meeting

The Evergreen Park American Legion Auxiliary, Post 854, will hold their monthly meeting on January 25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. The Auxiliary holds regularly scheduled meetings on the fourth Monday of the month at the American Legion Post 854, 9701 S. Kedzie Ave. in Evergreen Park. The Auxiliary promotes patriotism and is committed to helping active service men and women, veterans and their dependents, children and youth of the community, and the community as a whole. For information about eligibility and membership in the Auxiliary, please call Dian Kinahan at 708-229-2129.

Party with the pageant

Evergreen Park resident competes in national pageant

You are invited to join the McAuley community as we cheer on Miss Illinois Erin O'Connor who is competing in the Miss America Pageant. We will be gathering to watch the live broadcast on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at Bourbon Street from 6-10 p.m. Erin is a native of Evergreen Park and graduate of Most Holy Redeemer and Mother McAuley (2006). Don't miss this chance to watch one of our very own represent the Southside on national television.

Tickets are $25 in advance ($35 at the door) and available by calling 773-881-6559. In addition to the broadcast, tickets include food, drinks, DJ and games of chance.

Erin, who is a student at Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois, decided to run in the Miss Macomb Pageant as a means of promoting Skin Cancer Prevention. Erin has devoted herself to promoting the dangers of skin cancer since her mother's death from Melanoma in 2007 and works as an advocate for the American Cancer Society. After winning the Miss Macomb Pageant, Erin competed and was crowned Miss Illinois in June. On January 30, Erin will be competing against 52 contestants from across the country to become the next Miss America.

According to the Miss America Organization, "The Miss America program exists to provide personal and professional opportunities for young women to promote their voices in culture, politics and the community. The Miss America Organization is the leading provider of scholarships for young women in the world."

The Party with the Pageant fundraiser is sponsored by the Mother McAuley Mothers Club, Fathers Club and Alumnae Association and all proceeds benefit school improvements.

Miss Illinois Erin O'Connor

3rd District Ladies Auxiliary Valentine Day

Open up your hearts! The Department VFW Auxiliary President Jolynn Alvatter's special project is "Be My Valentine" to raise and collect funds for Cancer Aid and Research. Your generous donations will help our Sisters and Comrades through research and will allow us all the hope that a cure will be found for this dreaded disease that takes so many lives.

It is the National Organization's goal this year to reach $3 million dollars for Cancer Aid and Research. It is our hope that Illinois will contribute a large share of this goal. Therefore, the Third District Ladies Auxiliary are doing their part by sponsoring a "Be My Valentine Dance" on Saturday, February 6th 2010, at Johnson Phelps VFW # 5220, 9514 S. 52nd Avenue, Oaklawn, Il 60453. The party will be at 7PM until midnight, and tickets are $15.00 per person. The evening includes dinner, cash bar, music, raffles and more surprises, and is open to all friends of the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary. Dress attire for this party is casual.

We will have reserved seating for full tables of 8. Please make your check payable to Third District Ladies Auxiliary and send your money to Jean Marietta at 8714 S Oak Park Ave., Oak Lawn, Il 60453. Additional tickets may be purchased by contacting Jean at 708-227-5880. Please note that NO tickets will be sold at the door, and we must have your response no later than January 27, 2010.

Raffles will be held on the night of the party and raffle prizes are very much appreciated. Please contact Diane Pencak at 773-735-7343 or Sue Opila at 708-261-1974 or bring them, on the date of the event.

Monetary donations are also being accepted with the checks payable to the Third District Ladies Auxiliary, earmarked Be My Valentine and sent to Third District Ladies Auxiliary Treasurer, Dorothy Hejl at 6843 W 95th Place, Oak Lawn, Il 60453.

Finally, Valentines will be available on the night of the dance. In addition please bring any Valentines that you are collecting. They will be forwarded to our Veterans in the VA Medical Centers, as well as our active duty Service men and women, who are protecting our country at this moment.

Unfortunately, Cancer has touched us all either personally, or to a loved one, family member, friend, or acquaintance. So we are confident that you will dig deeply to support this most worthwhile event.

Barbara Marnszak - District President. Committee: Dorothy Hejl, Betty Johnson, Sue Opila, Patricia Martin, Jean Marietta, Diane Pencak.

Culver's Restaurant displays St. Particia student artwork

Culver's Restaurant located at 9229 South Harlem Avenue will be displaying the artwork of St. Patricia students from now until February 14, 2010. The artwork will be displayed as part of the restaurant's Young at Heart" program.

The artwork is the work of past and present St. Patricia students. There are 25 framed pieces that include flower paintings, Matisse scissors-art, Seurat pointillism, and Van Gogh Starry Night paintings. This year there are ship drawings and the retelling of the story of "The Wizard of Oz" through art.

Lipinski chastises Wall Street for huge bonuses amid record unemployment:

Cosponsors Bill to Impose 50 percent Tax on Big Bonuses at Major Banks

As big banks prepare to dole out seven and eight-figure bonuses while millions of Americans struggle to find work, Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-3) said today that Wall Street must repay in full the enormous debt it owes the American taxpayer.

"Frankly, I'm appalled by the prospect of Wall Street bankers receiving bonuses bigger than the lifetime earnings of many hard-working Americans," Congressman Lipinski said. "These are the same banks and the same people that helped cause the implosion of the financial system and the worst recession in generations. And these are the same kinds of bonuses that inspired the quest for short-term profits without regard to the consequences. It's partly thanks to the taxpayers that these institutions still exist, the people working there still have jobs, and they're back to booking enormous profits."

Congressman Lipinski is a cosponsor of The Wall Street Bonus Tax Act, H.R. 4426, which imposes a 50 percent tax on all bonus compensation over $50,000 at banks that were bailed out under the Troubled Asset Relief Program. Revenue from the tax would fund a low-interest lending program for healthy small businesses that are having trouble obtaining loans due to the credit crisis. The Small Business Administration would administer the program.

Today, The Wall Street Journal reported that pay at the top financial companies will be even higher for 2009 than for the record-setting year of 2007. Bloomberg News reports that analysts estimate Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, and JPMorgan Chase's investment bank may hand out $27.6 billion in bonuses. Average pay is expected to be $595,000 at Goldman Sachs, and we learned today the figure is $380,000 at JPMorgan Chase's investment bank – with legions of bonuses expected to dwarf those figures. Even in 2008, more than 2,000 people at those two firms alone received bonuses of more than $1 million. Previously, Congressman Lipinski voted for bipartisan legislation to impose a 90 percent tax on bonuses for high earners at big banks receiving substantial bailout funds. Unfortunately, the bill died in the Senate.

On Thursday, President Obama proposed a fee on the biggest banks that would be collected until it has covered the total amount of the taxpayers' losses under the Wall Street bailout, which Congressman Lipinski repeatedly voted against and has called for ending. Only banks with more than $50 billion in assets would be affected, and the fee would be based on banks' liabilities, helping to discourage banks from becoming overleveraged and endangering the financial system. Congressman Lipinski is looking forward to learning more about this proposal, and is pleased to see the White House finally taking steps to make taxpayers whole. If big banks can afford to pay out billions in bonuses, they can afford to pay what they owe taxpayers for throwing them a lifeline when they were at risk of going under.

Some bailout recipients have repaid the taxpayer dollars that propped them up. But their debts go well beyond those sums because the loans helped them to survive the crisis and return to profitability now and in the future. In addition, big banks that require public assistance to weather financial storms of their own creation ought to face real consequences – otherwise they will have little incentive to avoid risky behavior.

"Every sign is that Wall Street banks have returned to business as usual, issuing multi-million dollar bonuses that encourage dangerous risk-taking, in the belief that they are too big to fail," Congressman Lipinski said. "That puts our entire economy at risk, and it's the middle class that winds up paying with lost jobs when traders' massive bets go sour. We need to make sure the bankers understand something the rest of the country knows all too well, but that they seem to have forgotten: there's no such thing as a free lunch."

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnews@sbcglobal.net

Owner-Editor-Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnews@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

IRS e-file proved safe and easy

2.3 Million Illinoisans missing out on faster refunds

IRS e-file, the popular electronic tax return delivery service used by nearly two-thirds of Illinois filers, is open for business.

Nationwide, 95 million taxpayers chose e-file last year, with nearly 3.8 million Illinois taxpayers e-filing returns.

"About 2.3 million Illinoisans may be missing out on the benefits of e-file, including faster refunds and more accurate returns," said Sue Hales, IRS spokesperson. "They are still filing their federal tax returns by paper."

The IRS urges taxpayers, especially those people already using tax software, to e-file their return or ask their preparer to e-file their return.

"Nearly 70 percent of the paper returns filed by Illinois taxpayers were prepared using computer software," Hales said. "These filers do not hit the send button to e-file; instead they print out the tax return and mail it to the IRS. We're encouraging these paper filers to take the next step and e-file."

There are many new tax breaks this year. E-filing can make filing easier and help taxpayers find all the deductions and credits due them.

The benefits of e-file are:

Faster Refunds – Using electronic filing along with directly depositing refunds into bank accounts can get refunds to e-filers in as little as ten days.

More Accurate Returns – Computer software completes all math computations and identifies eligible tax breaks and IRS computers quickly and automatically check for errors or other missing information, making e-filed returns more accurate and reducing the chance of getting an error notice from the IRS. The error rate on paper returns is about 20 percent compared to a 1 percent error rate for e-filed returns.

Quick acknowledgement of Return Receipt – E-filers receive an acknowledgement within 48 hours that IRS has received their tax return. Paper filers do not receive this acknowledgement.

Also, if the IRS rejects an e-filed return, it will provide more specific explanations of the errors that caused the rejection. This will enable taxpayers to make corrections and quickly resubmit their returns.

Safe and Secure – Over the last 20 years, nearly 800 million individual e-filed tax returns nationwide have been safely and securely transmitted to the IRS. Tax return information is protected through encryption.

For Those Who Owe, E-file is Still the Best Option – People can file now and pay later, as long as the payment is received by April 15. Taxpayers can set the date for an automatic withdrawal from their financial accounts.

There are three ways to use e-file, through tax preparers, through most tax preparation software products or through IRS Free File. The IRS does not charge for e-file. Many tax preparers and software products also offer free e-filing with their services.

As people become more comfortable using computers and the Internet for financial transactions, the IRS has seen a huge growth in the number of people who are preparing their own tax returns with the help of software. Of the 3.8 million returns e-filed from Illinois last year, more than 1.3 million were e-filed by Illinoisans using tax preparation software.

For people seeking free electronic options, IRS Free File offers something for almost everyone through two formats.

Traditional Free File provides free tax preparation software and free electronic filing to individuals or families who earn $57,000 or less. Traditional Free File is a public-private partnership in which approximately 20 tax software manufacturers make their tax preparation software and e-filing available for free. Free File can only be accessed through the IRS Web site at IRS.gov.

Everyone can use Free File Fillable Forms. This service, now in its second year, provides free online tax forms that can be completed and filed electronically. These are electronic versions of IRS paper forms. This program is ideal for people who are comfortable preparing their own returns with little assistance.

People looking for a tax preparer who files electronically or for more information on e-file can find this information by clicking on the IRS e-file logo at IRS.gov.

Hometown News

Air Force Airman 1st Class James L. Walsh graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

He is the son of Maureen and Timothy Walsh of Magnolia Lane, Tinley Park, Ill., and grandson of Peggy Walsh of Avon Ave., Oak Lawn, Ill.

Walsh is a 2008 graduate of Victor J. Andrew High School, Tinley Park.

Army Pvt. David W. Kaekert Jr. has graduated from the Infantryman One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. The training consists of Basic Infantry Training and Advanced Individual Training. During the nine weeks of basic combat training, the soldier received training in drill and ceremonies, weapons employment, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid skills, and Army history, core values and traditions. Additional training included development of basic combat skills and battlefield operations and tactics, and experienced use of various weapons and weapons defenses available to the infantry crewman.

The Advanced Individual Training course is designed to train infantry soldiers to perform reconnaissance operations; employ, fire and receiver anti-personnel and anti-tank mines; locate and neutralize land mines and operate target and sight equipment and perform a variety of other advanced military operations.

He is the son of Carol Kaeker. The private is a 1999 graduate of Oak Lawn High School.

James L. Walsh

Evergreen Park Community High School Students Advance in PTSA Reflections contest

The Evergreen Park Community High School PTSA recently sponsored the annual "Reflections" contest in the area of art, music, and literature. Sixteen students were recognized and their entries have advanced to the district competition. (Row 1) Celena Campbell, Alia Kassam, Kelly Alexander, Lauren Schulte; (Row 2) Lauren Sullivan, Amanda Williamson, Kelly Guinn, Lauren Capizzi; (Row 3) Rich Daker, Farzaan Kassam, Brittany Hewing, and Ryan Kress; (Not pictured: Hana Long, Emily Matthews, Matthew Mitchell, Allison Rickert).

Oak Forest Park District announces upcoming events

The Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Ave., is offering Little Tykes for children ages 2-3 years old to enjoy group play. Classes meet weekly beginning on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 thru May 11, 2010. The class is from 12:00 noon to 2:00pm. The fees are $154R/ $200NR. Register now.

The Park District is also offering Country & Western Line Dancing for ages 16 years and old on Mondays, February 22, 2010 thru April 12, 2010 from 8:00pm to 9:15pm. The cost is $40 resident and $52 nonresident.

The Park District is also offering a Ski Night for Teens at Chestnut Mountain Galena for teens, grades 7-12. Ski all night long! We will leave the Central Park Building on Friday, February 19, 2010 at 4:30pm for a coach bus ride to Galena and ski from 10pm to 3am. We will return on Saturday, February 20, 2010 at approximately 8am. This trip is offered with park agencies statewide. Ski and snowboard lessons are available from 10pm to 2am. Fee: $85 includes transportation, lift and lesson. $100 includes above plus ski rental. $101 includes above plus snowboard rental. No refunds.

The Park District is also is offering Gymnastics for all ages. Learn tumbling and develop the strength and skills for gymnastics. Classes are forming starting the week of January 20, 2010.

The Park District is also Little Bitty Dancers from boys and girls ages 3 to 4 years old on Mondays, January 18, 2010 thru April 26, 2010 from 5:00pm to 5:50pm. The cost is $62 for resident and $80 for nonresident.

The Park District is also offering Momentum Dance Force, Pre-Team Company for boys and girls in 2nd thru 11th grades.

No Audition! Just register. Be a part of a team, learn a routine to be performed around the community, attend Friday night practices, and take steps towards becoming a MDF dancer. Meet Fridays, Feb 5, 2010 thru May 14, 2010 from 5:30pm to 6:50pm. Fee is $70Res/$91Non-Res.

The Park District is also is offering Clog Dance – A dance fitness class ages 16 years and older on Tuesdays (Beginners from 7:00p-8:00p and Experienced from 8:00p-9:00p). Classes are on going, join on any Tuesday. Cost is $4.00 per class, pay at door.

For more information about any of these events please call Gina Byrnes @ 687-7270 x119.

Preschool Open House held for new students

On Thursday, January 21, 2010, the Evergreen Park Recreation Department Preschool will host an open house for new students to our program from 6:30 - 7:30 P.M. The preschool staff will be on hand to greet you and answer any questions you may have. You will be able to view the three preschool rooms and discuss curriculum with the teachers. In addition, if you would like to register for the fall session, you may do so that evening. Registration will begin then and continue until classes are filled or the session begins. Children who attend must be fully toilet trained by the first day of preschool, the week of August 30, 2010. To register for preschool you must provide the following items: the child's birth certificate, proof of residency, and a $35 non-refundable deposit (which will be applied to the first preschool payment).

For more details contact the Evergreen Park Recreation Department, at 3450 West 95th Street, Evergreen Park, IL or call 708-229-3374.

Days offered

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday A.M. (9-11:30) or P.M. (12:15-2:45)

Tuesday and Thursday A.M. (9-11:30) or P.M. (12:15-2:45)

5-Day Session - Monday through Friday A.M. (Attendees must be entering kindergarten in 2011.)

Fees per 6-Week Session (6 sessions offered per year)

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday A.M. or P.M. Resident - $206, Non-Resident - $226

Tuesday and Thursday A.M. or P.M. Resident - $153, Non-Resident - $168

Monday through Friday (5 Days - A.M.) Resident- $338 Non-Resident - $372

Teaching Staff - All classrooms have 2 teachers; 1 or more have college degrees. All teachers are CPR certified.

Please note: The Evergreen Park Recreation Department Preschool fees are 50% lower than most of the surrounding area preschools. Supplies and special events are already included in the price. There are no additional costs.

Pancake Breakfast

The DDI: Music Boosters from Eisenhower High School will be hosting their annual Pancake Breakfast in the school's cafeteria. Tickets are $5 each and are available at the door or from any band or choir student. Please enter through the Pool Door Entrance on the south side of the building.

Date: Saturday, January 23, 2010, 7 am - noon.

Location: Eisenhower High School, 127th & Sacramento

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A Weekend Dedicated to Your Mind, Body and Spirit Little Company of Mary Presents the 25th Annual Women's Wellness Weekend

You are invited to Little Company of Mary's 25th Annual Women's Wellness Weekend February 19 to 21, 2010. The event is entitled "Heart and Soul" and is especially designed for women longing to invigorate and replenish the mind, body, and spirit. This weekend guarantees fun and laughter while enjoying the company of friends.

This weekend package includes an optional one or two night stay at the beautiful Marriott Oak Brook Hotel, informative workshops, fabulous meals, a special gift pack, entertainment, fun vendors, chair massages, mini health screenings, wine and cheese party, and much more!

The workshop topics include:

"Happiness Happens – It's an Inside Job," with Joan Murphy, R.N., Ph.D.

"Joint Basics – Keeping Your Knees Healthy," with Sujal Desai, D.O.

"Be Fabulous at Any Age," with Alexis Jones, M.D.

"Blue's Clues for Anxiety and Depression," with Traci Powell, M.D.

"Issues, Issues, What's the Issue!" with Anne Bartolotta, R.N., M.S.

You also will enjoy a liturgy, entertainment, massages, vendors, a wine and cheese party, a special gift package and more! This time away from home will enhance your life, restore your energy and allow you to experience the peace within. Rates are based on the number of people in the room. The per-person rate for a two-night stay with five meals in a double room is $312. The single room rate is $335. A one-night stay with four meals in a double room is $208. The single room rate is $223. Enrollment is limited and registration deadline is February 7, 2010. Call Little Company of Mary Women's Wellness Consultants at 708.424.9988 to book your getaway today!

Women's Wellness Weekend

Our Women's Services for Life and Health are dedicated to caring for the whole woman. We are there for women, every step of the way. With minimally invasive technology, a team of passionate experts and a focus on better communication and convenient access, Little Company of Mary is always looking for new ways of providing care with fewer hassles and less discomfort. With this constant strive to bring improvements to the communities we serve, we continue to move forward in our pursuit of pain-free health care. Please visit www.LCMH.org/women for more information.

Smith Village offers Jan. 26 programs for caregivers of people dealing with dementia

Families and friends of seniors living with Alzheimer's disease or dementia can seek support and share their experiences at a monthly meeting organized by Smith Village, a continuing care retirement community in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood.

These groups, which are led by professionals who have received special training from the Alzheimer's Association, offer important information for those caring for a loved one with memory loss.

Tuesday, Jan. 26 at Smith Village

Smith Village, 2320 W. 113th Place in Chicago, welcomes a special guest speaker to its monthly support group at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 26. a professional social worker who has been at the Rush University Alzheimer's Disease Center for 12 years.

Susan Frick, MSW among other things, co-facilitates "Without Warning," a monthly support group for individuals and families who live with early onset Alzheimer's. Part of her presentation will include a question and answer period.

The meeting designed for the adult children of seniors with memory loss' challenges—is free and light refreshments will be served. Please call 773-474-7300 to reserve a seat.

About Smith Village

Smith Village residents find their vibrant lifestyle well-suited to keeping active and engaged in the community. They enjoy options for flexible dining in a beautifully appointed Main Dining Room and a busy Marketplace Cafe. In the same building, they have access to a spa beauty salon and a fitness center with a full-time fitness specialist on staff.

For more information about how Smith Village can help seniors thrive during their retirement, please call 773-474-7300 or visit www.SmithVillage.org.

Freedom From Smoking® Offered In Orland Park

Special Services to Host Free Eight Week Program

The Village of Orland Park Clerk's Office of Special Services has joined forces with the Cook County Department of Public Health to help area residents quit smoking. "Freedom From Smoking" will be held at the Orland Park Civic Center for eight weeks beginning January 28th at 7:00 p.m. Led by a trained facilitator, this American Lung Association program is tailored for adults and is made possible with funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health. The Orland Park Civic Center is located at 14750 South Ravinia Avenue, one block west of LaGrange Road (US Route 45). Pre-registration is required by calling Special Services at 708/403-6188.

Supportive Living Program Presentation Offered at Louis S. Viverito Senior Center

Stickney Township Office on Aging will be hosting a presentation on Supportive Living on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at the Louis S. Viverito Senior Center located at 7745 S. Leamington Ave. in Burbank.

Supportive living is affordable assisted living that is designed to promote independence, dignity, respect and well-being, while providing additional assistance as needed. Residents participate in their own personal service plan, thus continuing to maintain an independent lifestyle. Moraine Court located in Bridgeview will be providing the presentation and lunch. Please call (708) 636-8850 to reserve your free lunch.

Stickney Township Office on Aging has been serving the communities of Burbank, Stickney, Forest View, Central Stickney and Nottingham for over 100 years. Stickney Township offers a variety of services and programs for residents and their family members. For further information please call (708) 636-8850 or visit www.townshipofstickney.org.

Bridal Valentines Day is our February 2, 2010 issue.
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City of Oak Forest e-Briefs

What's new?

City recognizes retired police sergeant

The Oak Forest City Council recognized Sergeant Richard Beatty, who retired from the Oak Forest Police Department in November after more than 20 years of service

City Council approves bank's request to build a drive-thru facility

The City Council also approved a request by the Oak Forest Banking Center for a special use permit to build a drive-thru facility

Neighborhood Watch hosts two meetings this month

The 2nd Ward will host a Neighborhood Watch meeting on January 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The Fielderest Neighborhood Watch group will host a meeting on January 21 at 7 p.m. at the Don Gorman Fieldhouse (corner of Harold and Henry). All residents are welcome to attend either meeting.

Early voting runs through January 28

Early voting for the February 2 primary election will take place at City Hall now through January 28. Early voting hours are Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Want to appeal your 2009 property taxes?

If you have questions about appealing your 2009 property taxes, contact Oak Forest Taxpayer Advocate Guy Gattone at 708-687-4050, ext. 1031. The Cook County Board of Review is considering Bremen Township appeals through February 22. Tax appeal forms are available in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 15440 S. Central Avenue.

Winter parking reminder

As winter weather gets into high gear, please keep in mind that all cars must be removed from the street during and for 12 hours after a snowfall of two inches or more. Also, please do not push the snow from your driveways into the streets as this can lead to potential safety hazards.

Can Oak Forest "Count" on You?

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has become the 150,000th partner for the 2010 Census. the U.S. Census Bureau recently announced. The U.S. Chamber joins a long list of national, local and community-based organizations that are voluntarily promoting awareness of the 2010 Census. National corporations such as Target, Best Buy and Sprint as well as nonprofits like the AARP and NAACP use their own resources to promote the census, with employees, customers, members and the public. Community-based organizations, whether churches, neighborhood associations or service clubs, send the message that participating in the census is vital to ensure that the more than $400 billion in federal spending allocated annually based on census figures is fairly distributed.

Bremen Post 2791 offers military family support group

Led by Oak Forest Veterans Commission Chair Jerry Styrsky, the military family support group organized by Bremen Post 2791 meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The group regularly collects donations for care packages for soldiers who are serving overseas. For more information, contact Jerry at jerry.styrsky@att.net.

Question of the Week

I work hard to shovel the snow from my driveway and sidewalk. Why is it that every time I finish shoveling my driveway, a plow comes by and puts it all back?

The Public Works Department's mission during snow plow operations is to make the roads safe and passable for anyone traveling through our city. Unfortunately, plow operators cannot prevent snow from being pushed up onto the curb and into driveway and sidewalk curb cuts. Please do not shovel snow from curb cuts and sidewalks into the street because, when the snow starts to melt, it can refreeze, creating dangerous slick spots. Instead, shovel snow onto the parkway.

To submit a question for consideration, please send an e-mail to emaher@oakforest.org and type Question of the Week in the subject line.

★★★ KEVIN J. MURPHY ★★★
FOR COOK COUNTY JUDGE – PUNCH NO. 161

KEVIN J. MURPHY has practiced law for 28 years, as a staff attorney for a downtown law firm, and a sole practitioner in the community. Murphy has worked in the private sector his entire career and has a broad range of experience representing his clients in matters important to them. Such experience includes extensive jury trial, experience in injury/death cases and matters concerning decedents estates, real estate and misdemeanors.

KEVIN J. MURPHY's work experience includes jobs as a machine operator, security worker, dock/warehouse worker and truck helper during college and law school.
MURPHY is one of ten children, and now the father of four.

- Marist High School graduate of 1973
- University of Notre Dame graduate of 1977
- Northern Illinois Law School graduate of 1981
- St. Alexander Basketball Coach 1995 to 2007
- Volunteer Misericordia Home and Knights of Columbus since 1973

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Oak Lawn Library News

Free Family Program: Big Run Wolf Ranch

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a live animal program for families featuring furry creatures from the Big Run Wolf Ranch on Sunday, January 31 from 3-4 p.m.

John Basile will introduce and give background information on a sampling of his ranch residents, including a wolf, a coyote, a woodchuck and a skunk. The Big Run Wolf Ranch is a non-profit, federally licensed educational program specializing in conservation of North American wildlife. This program is intended for children ages five and up. All children must be accompanied by a caregiver. No advance registration is required.

For more information about this and other children's programs, call 708-422-4990, or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Chicago Wolves Center Riley Holzapfel met with dozens of young fans and signed autographs at the Oak Lawn Public Library.

Chicago Wolves Hockey Player Visits Library

Chicago Wolves hockey player Andrew Kozek will appear at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., Tuesday, February 2 from 4:4:45 p.m. All ages are welcome. No advance registration is required.

Kozek is visiting the library as part of the "Read to Succeed" outreach efforts of the Chicago Wolves hockey team. "Read to Succeed" is a reading incentive program initiated by the Chicago Wolves that involves more than 28,000 children and 105 libraries in the Chicagoland area. During his visit, Kozek will also answer questions, sign autographs and dress an audience member in his professional hockey gear.

Registrations are now being accepted for the "Read to Succeed" program at the library's Youth Services Desk. Oak Lawn students eighth grade and under, who are independent readers, are asked to read three books between now and January 31 to receive a special prize provided by the Chicago Wolves.

For more information about this and other children's programs, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Salzburg Travelogue

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free travelogue slide lecture program exploring Salzburg, Austria on Tuesday, February 2 at 7 p.m.

Al Popowitz will take armchair travelers on a journey to the city of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's childhood, where they will see the cathedral and organ where he played as a court musician and the burial place of the Mozart family. Other sights covered include the Hohensalzburg fortress, the narrow streets of Salzburg and locations associated with the film "The Sound of Music."

View a complete schedule of adult programs, at www.oaklawnlibrary.org. For additional information, call 708-422-4990.

Free Teen Program: Simpsons Marathon

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free marathon of episodes from "The Simpsons" television show for students in grades 6-10 on Wednesday, February 3 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. No advance registration is required.

For more information, call the Youth Services Department, 708-422-4990.

Free Drop-in Storytime

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free drop-in storytime program for children ages three through eight from 11-11:30 a.m. Saturday, February 6. No advance registration is required. Parents are welcome to accompany their child to this program. Otherwise, they must stay within the library.

For more information about this and other children's activities, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Friends of the Oak Lawn Library Trip: Sleeping Beauty Ballet

The Friends of the Oak Lawn Library will host a bus trip to see Russia's Tchaikovsky Ballet Company perform "Sleeping Beauty" at the Auditorium Theatre in downtown Chicago on Sunday, March 21. An in-person registration will be held from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, January 30 at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St. The bus will depart from the library at 12:30 p.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. The cost of this trip, which includes motorcoach transportation and dress circle seating, is $65 for Friends members and $70 for nonmembers. Registrants must present a current membership card or receipt to receive the $5 discount. Two ticket limit. Please be advised that this trip is not wheelchair accessible.

After the in-person registration closes, you may call the library to find out how to purchase tickets, 708-422-4990.

Anne Brandt of Palos Heights (left) and Dianne Peloso of Tinley Park were named winners of the Theodore H Reimer Jr Volunteer of the Year award recently by Together We Cope in Tinley Park

Together We Cope salutes its volunteer staff

More than 150 area residents who donate their time and talent to Together We Cope were honored recently at the agency's annual Volunteer Luncheon

Anne Brandt of Palos Heights and Dianne Peloso of Tinley Park were given top honors as winners of the Theodore H Reimer Jr Volunteer of the Year award for their outstanding service in two of the agency's biggest projects The award is presented annually to volunteers whose care and compassion most exemplifies the spirit of the late Mr. Reimer, a longtime board member and friend to TWC

Brandt and Peloso are the volunteer organizational forces behind TWC's Fill Back-to-School program and Adopt-a-Child Christmas program They plan, shop, sort, organize, package and deliver the thousands of items collected annually in these two programs for south suburban children in need Both women are retired from successful careers. Anne as a speech therapist in the public school system and Dianne as a secretary with the Illinois State Police

Kathryn Stramiero, executive director of TWC, said volunteers are the backbone of the agency and bring with them deep experience in many fields "Our volunteers are critical to our operation, and we could not accomplish what we do without them But the best part is that they are such fun to work with, and they light up our operation," Stramiero said

Together We Cope assists families in temporary crisis from Bremen, Orland, Palos and Worth townships with food, clothing and some financial aid Further information on the agency is available at (708) 633-5040

Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce to Host 64th Annual Installation Event

Monte Carlo Night will Offer Gaming for All

Members and supporters of the Oak Lawn business community will gather on Saturday, January 30 at the Hilton Oak Lawn (9333 S Cicero Ave) to honor the 2010 Officers and Directors of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce during the 64th Annual Installation This year's theme is "Monte Carlo" and will offer attendees with the opportunity to try their luck at roulette, craps or blackjack Tickets cost $65 per person and include heavy hors d'oeuvres, carving and dessert stations, 500 complimentary gambling chips and a cash bar

The evening begins with cocktails at 6:00 p m followed by the Installation of the Board of Directors at 6:30 p m and gaming, provided by Casino Party Planners, Inc , from 7:30 p m to 10:30 p m At the conclusion of the evening, attendees can redeem the chips for raffle tickets A variety of raffle baskets featuring hotel and restaurant certificates and other items will be on display Winners will be picked at 11:00 p m

Rita Olsen of the Gateway Motel will be inducted as the 2010 President of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce Mrs Olsen succeeds Glen Kato of Hottus Web Design & Marketing Also inducted will be First Vice President, Christy Hernandez of Archer Bank, Second Vice President, John Crivellone of United Security Services, Treasurer, Patti Johnson of Suburban Bank & Trust, and Secretary, Jeff Reichl of Marquette Bank Past President of the Chamber Bob Kuenster of Thompson and Kuenster Funeral Home will serve as Master of Ceremonies

The Chamber's Board of Directors also will be inducted, including Linda Atkins (Oak Lawn Public Library), Steve Angle (Angle Studios), Karen Ball (Hawk Ford), Peggy Burke (First American Bank), Dr Sandra Bury (Complete Vision Care) Jennifer Cornell (21st Century Chiropractic), Tom Cusack (Cusack Insurance), Larry Deetjen (Village of Oak Lawn), Dr David Finkelstein (Oak Lawn Foot & Ankle), Greg Foertsch (Harold L Richard High School), Mary Grana (Oak Lawn Park District), Rick Harmon (Hilton Oak Lawn), Larry Lehman (Liberty Tax Service), Peggy McClanahan (Pilgrim Faith Church), Gene Mondello (Gene's Decorating), Ginger Morgan (Thompson & Kuenster Funeral Home), Don Murphy (American Family Insurance), Jon Orlowski (Men's Wearhouse), Barb Perino (Advocate Christ Hope Children's Hospital), Michael Riordan (Oak Lawn Community High School), Michelle Williams (First Midwest Bank) and Adam Woodworth (The Children's Museum in Oak Lawn)

For more information, or to purchase tickets for the dinner, please call the Chamber office at 708-424-8300 or email office@oaklawnchamber.com

Program Census 2010 Presented by Honorary Jerry Bosch

Trustee Jerry Bosch will explain the importance of filling out the United States Census and answer questions that you may have

Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 11:30am, tickets cost $6 at the Village of Evergreen Park Senior Center, 9547 S Homan Ave , Evergreen Park, IL

The Census is a count of everyone residing the the United States

All U S residents must be counted both citizens and non citizens

You will receive your questionnaire in March 2010 by U S mail

The U S. Constitution requires a national census every 10 years The population determines the number of Representatives per state, and dollars services for the area

Households must complete and return their questionnaires asap Households that do not respond may receive a replacement questionnaire in early April Census takers will visit households that do not return questionnaires to take a count in person

Chili lunch by Mrs Pitluck

Ticket can be purchase at the Office of Citizens' Services, 3450 W 97th Street, Room 107 For more info call 422-8776

Oak Lawn Senior Happenings

On Thursday, January 28th a box lunch is planned The success of the day is all thanks to local businesses who offer to sponsor the program This lunch is being sponsored by Right at Home in Home Care and Assistance, located at 8951 West 151 Street in Orland Park Representatives will educate seniors as to what is available when looking for help in the home They will also discuss veteran benefits for private duty home care services and the legal issues that may occur The presentation begins at 10:30 a m followed by lunch and bingo The cost to the senior is $3.50 and seating is limited

For further details you may call the Senior Center at 499-0240

Income Tax Preparation

Beginning the first week of February appointments will be available to Oak Lawn Seniors for income tax preparation Before making an appointment be sure to have all the pertinent information Documents needed are your Social Security statement, interest, dividend, and pension statements, Real Estate property tax bills for 2009 and last year's return Our volunteers are trained and certified by the IRS in cooperation with AARP and can prepare SIMPLE returns Appointments may be made by calling the Senior Center at 499-0240

CHARLES FRANCIS
FITZGERALD
DEMOCRAT
Experience, Integrity, Fairness

EXPERIENCE
* Trial Attorney for 28 Years
* Legal Instructor, Cook County Sheriff's Institute, 2000-2010
* Administrative Law Judge, Chicago 2000-2010
* Assistant State's Attorney, Cook County 1981-1987

PUNCH 195

QUALIFIED / RECOMMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING ASSOCIATIONS:
Chicago Bar Assn.
Cook County Bar Assn.
Illinois State Bar Assn.
Women's Bar Assn.
Black Women Lawyers' Assn.
Lesbian and Gay Bar Assn.
Asian American Bar Assn.
Puerto Rican Bar Assn.
Hellenic Bar Assn.
The Decalogue Society of Lawyers

EDUCATION
John Marshall Law School
- Juris Doctor, 1981
University of Illinois, Chicago
- B.A. Administration of Criminal Justice, 1973
Leo High School 1969
Visitation Grammar School 1965

"As a judge for Cook County I would pledge to ensure that justice prevails above all else in the courtroom. I would be honored to serve the community and ask for your vote in the February 2nd Democratic Primary Election." - *Charley Fitzgerald*

Paid for by FITZGERALD FOR JUDGE

www.FitzgeraldForJudge.com

Charley Fitzgerald and Meghan Daly pose for a picture after the Fitzgerald for Judge Kick-off Fundraiser held in early December at TR's Pub on Chicago's south side. The Campaign will hold another fundraiser Friday, January 22 at Lantgan's Pub, a mile east of TR's.

Fitzgerald for Judge

Fitzgerald seeks Judgeship in Cook County Subcircuit

The Metra Rock Island railway has become a popular route for Chicagoland commuters over the years. Charles F. Fitzgerald is an occasional passenger and although he has not been traveling by rail lately, you can still find him at various stations throughout the southland area distributing campaign literature to early morning commuters.

"Sometimes people give me a puzzled look when I approach them and ask, 'Wait, so you're the actual candidate?' That usually makes me laugh," said Fitzgerald when asked about his experience self promoting his campaign. "One lady told me, 'I've never had a candidate for judge personally come up to me. I'm going to vote for you for that reason.' People really appreciate the honest effort," he later added.

Fitzgerald is a lifelong south side Chicagoan. He was born in McKinley Park and raised in the Visitation Parish by his working-class parents, Genevieve Krzywon and Leo Fitzgerald. His parents met while working in the historic Chicago Stock Yards. After graduating from UIC, he worked his way through John Marshall Law School and graduated in 1981. He served as an Assistant State's Attorney from 1981 - 1987. He then opened a private practice office located in Mt. Greenwood. He also has served as an Administrative Law Judge for the city and as a Legal Instructor for the Cook County Sheriff's Institute for the past 10 years. He currently lives in Morgan Park and belongs to the St. Cajetan Parish.

Fitzgerald is running in the 3rd Judicial Circuit Court of Cook County. In addition to running against the slatted candidate, Fitzgerald has had to endure criminal acts against his campaign, such as the theft of a number of his lawn signs. Incidences have been reported in a number of Suburbs and Chicago neighborhoods, including a theft that took place on Fitzgerald's block in which several signs were stolen. When asked about these incidences, Fitzgerald said, "Welcome to Cook County. It's unfortunate that these things happen, but I can't say I'm surprised. But you can't worry about those things. All you can do is keep working your tail off and hope for the best."

Fitzgerald has worked hard enough to nearly empty the campaign bank account. As a result the Fitzgerald for Judge Committee will be holding a fundraiser at Lantgan's Pub, 3119 W. 111th Street, Chicago IL, on Friday, January 22nd, from 6:30pm - 9pm. For more information about the event, or the campaign please visit www.FitzgeraldforJudge.com, email Charles at info@FitzgeraldforJudge.com, or call (773) 213-2604.

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** WINTER SPECIAL **
2 DINNERS $19.00 Soup or Salad, Dinner w/ Potato, Vegetables, Dessert and Coffee
Expire February 28, 2010
Polish & Lithuanian Cuisine
Banquets • Catering • Cocktails
BUY ONE SOUP GET ONE FREE!
Any size. Carry out only. Expires February 28, 2010
BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

Evergreen Park Library

Winter Craft Series: Crochet

On Wednesdays, from now through February 24 at 4:00 pm, teens, grades 6-12, are invited to the library to learn to crochet. Teens are asked to register and to bring their own H-8 hook, all other materials will be provided.

Weekend Quilters

Beginner and veteran quilters will enjoy learning how to make various traditional and art quilt projects with instructor Penny Nichols at the Weekend Quilters held on Saturday, February 20 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Participants do not need to bring a sewing machine to these sessions.

Toddler Time

The library's Toddler Time for children ages 18-35 months, accompanied by an adult will meet for interactive story times beginning the week of January 25 for 6 weeks on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. or Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Registration has begun. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Preschool Story Time

The library's Preschool Story Time for children ages 3-5 years will meet for stories, songs and crafts beginning the week of January 25 for 6 weeks on Tuesdays at 9:30 am or 6:30 pm, or Wednesdays at 9:30 am. Registration has begun. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Baby Bookworms

The library's Baby Bookworms, children ages birth to 17 months with a caregiver, will meet for stories, songs, and rhymes for 6 weeks on Fridays at 9:30 a.m. from January 29 through March 5. Registration has begun. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Kelly's Family Fun Time!

The library invites families with children of all ages to Kelly's Family Fun Time, on Thursdays January 21, February 4, February 18, at 6:30 p.m. Registration has begun. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Circus Boy at the EP Library!

All ages are invited to the library to be entertained by Bobby Hunt, the Circus Boy on Wednesday, January 20 at 6:30 p.m. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Supernatural World Domination

On Wednesday, January 20 from 7:00-8:00 pm teens, grades 6-12, are invited to play Supernatural World Domination. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

BIGGEST LOSER (OF POUNDS) AT THE LIBRARY!

Jump start your diet in 2010 with the Biggest Loser Challenge and dieting tips from a registered dietician at the Evergreen Park Library the third Thursday of each month. The Biggest Loser at the Library will meet on Thursday, January 21 at 6:30 pm. Registration is required along with $5.00 fee which will be awarded to the winner in June. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Explore the Oriental Institute!

All ages are invited to take a trip to the Oriental Institute of Chicago with the Evergreen Park Public Library on Saturday, January 23 from 9:15 am-1:30 pm. Reservation fees including bus transportation are adults (ages 13 & up), $12, children, $8. Deadline is January 20, 2010. For more information, call (708) 422-8522.

Popcorn Day!

On Friday, January 22 at 3:30 pm, grades K-5, are invited to Popcorn Day, a celebration of all things relating to this tasty treat. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Sunday Lego Club

The library's Lego Club for children in kindergarten through fifth grade will create different Lego themes at 1:00 p.m. on Sundays, January 24 and February 14. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

BIG Read Book Talk: A Wizard of Earthsea

On Tuesday, January 26 from at 7:00-8:00 pm, all ages are invited to the library to discuss "A Wizard of Earthsea" by Ursula Le Guin. Books are available at the circulation desk one month prior to discussion. This program is in participation with The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment of the Arts, and in partnership with the Beverly Arts Center.

Microsoft Excel Basics Hands-On

The library invites adults to join computer guru, John Hojek on Tuesday, January 26 from 6:30 until 8:30 pm and learn the basics of utilizing spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel. Registration is required along with $10.00 fee which will be refunded upon attendance. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

After School Story Club

The library's After School Story Club for children in kindergarten through third grade will meet at 3:30 p.m. and have fun with crafts and games on Wednesdays, January 27 through March 3. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Design Your Own Superhero!

On Wednesday, January 27 from 6:30-8:30 pm, local comic book artist Douglas Klauba teaches teens in grades 6-12 the basic steps on designing their own superhero. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Kindred Spirits Book Discussion

On Wednesday, January 27 at 7:00 pm, adults are invited to the library's Kindred Spirits book discussion of And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie. Copies of the book, including large print when available, can be checked out at the circulation desk one month prior to the discussion. For information, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Fan Party

On Thursday, January 28 at 3:30 pm, grades 3-5 are invited to the library for a Diary of a Wimpy Kid fan party. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Winter Craft Series: Clay Tigers

On Thursday, January 28 from 7:00-8:00 pm, teens will learn how to make a clay tiger for Chinese New Year. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Cinderella and Prince Charming will again host the Orland Park Recreation Department's "Cinderella's Ball" on Saturday, January 30th. Pre-registration is required at the Loebe Recreation Center or the village's Sportsplex. For more information, call 708/645-7529.

Orland Park Recreation to Host "Cinderella's Ball"

Cinderella and Prince Charming Host an Evening to Remember

Cinderella and Prince Charming will return to Orland Park to host the Recreation Department's second annual "Cinderella's Ball" on Saturday, January 30, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

"We held our first 'Cinderella's Ball' last year and it was a very well attended, beautiful event," said Recreation Program Supervisor Stephanie Simpson. "Many of the children who attended came in costume," she added.

The Orland Park Civic Center will be transformed into an elegant castle where attendees will enjoy music, dancing and refreshments.

Open to those age three and older, the event is limited to 200 attendees. The cost is $16 for residents and $21 for non-residents. Each child must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Attendees are encouraged to dress up for this event for which pre-registration is required at the Franklin Loebe Recreation Center, 14650 South Ravinia and at the Sportsplex, 11351 West 159th Street. For more information, call 708/645-PLAY.

St. Patricia Open House & Registration for 2010-2011 School Year

Sunday, February 7th – 9:00 am to 1:00pm

St. Patricia School's annual open house and registration will be held Sunday, February 7, 2010. Families are welcome to visit the campus at 9000 South 86th Avenue in Hickory Hills from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Informational brochures, guided tours, and refreshments will be available.

Founded in 1960, St. Patricia School has a long tradition of academic excellence. Our challenging Pre-Kindergarten through 8th-grade curriculum is enhanced by a state-of-the-art computer lab, a science lab, band program, and a very nurturing Catholic learning environment. Unlike many public school districts, St. Patricia offers full-day kindergarten. Its pre-kindergarten program is available either half-day or full-day.

Before- and after-school care is available on-site, with affordable hourly fees. Students are also able to participate in a wide array of extra-curricular activities, including a school play, scouting, competitive football, basketball, soccer, volleyball, cheerleading, and more.

The open house and registration culminate the celebration of Catholic Schools Week. You may also contact the school at 708-598-8200 to arrange a tour or classroom "shadow" during normal school hours (7:45am – 2:15pm). You can also visit our website at www.stpatriciaparish.com.

Special Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Event
Thursday, February 18th – 6:00 pm

St. Patricia is hosting a special Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Open House on February 18, 2010, at 6:00 pm. Prospective students and their parents can tour the school and participate in a mini-classroom session. Refreshments will be served. Please register for this special event by February 12 by calling the school at (708) 598-8200.

Lil' Bobcats Tot Program

St. Patricia offers the Lil' Bobcats Tot Program on Thursdays from 10:00 – 10:45 am. Toddlers enjoy stories, crafts, finger play, music and movement. Call the school to register at (708) 598-8200.

Evergreen Park High School Registration for 2010-11

Registration for the 2010-11 school year for residents of Evergreen Park begins with the class of 2014. Incoming freshmen who are residents of Evergreen Park should register on Saturday, January 23, 2010 and February 6, 2010, in the library located on the second floor.

Make-up times will be on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 and Tuesday, February 9, 2010. Those who have not yet taken the 8th grade placement test should call for details regarding this required test. In addition, any Evergreen Park resident who wishes to attend EPCHS, should call now for registration information. Counselors will meet with parents guardians and students who are considering attending EPCHS to explore the opportunities offered. Please call Mrs. Rademaker at (708) 398-1275 to schedule an appointment. Questions may be directed to William J. Sanderson, Principal, (708) 398-1233.

Evergreen Park Community High School District #231 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, or disability.

Tot Time Preschool

"SNEAK PREVIEW"

The Tinley Park-Park District will host a Sneak Preview for anyone who would like to visit the preschool facilities and obtain information about the Tot Time Preschool Program for the 2010-2011 school year. The preview is scheduled for Saturday, February 6 from 10:00-11:30 am at the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center, 8125 W. 171st Street, and the Vogt Woods Building, 6527 W. 171st Street. Registration is not required for the Sneak Preview. Registration for the 2010-2011 school year begins March 1 for Tinley Park-Park District residents, and April 1 for non-residents.

The Tot Time Preschool Program provides a warm, nurturing environment for three- and four-year-old students. Children participate in a variety of developmentally appropriate activities including creative art experiences, singing and rhythm activities and activities related to everyday math and science discovery. The Tot Time Preschool Program has been in existence since 1975. For additional information regarding the Tot Time Preschool Program contact Mary Wrobel, Program Coordinator at (708) 342-4202.

ABOUT THE TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT

The Tinley Park-Park District maintains over 420 acres of park lands and recreation facilities including its state of the art Bettenhausen Recreation Center, Tinley Fitness – a full-service fitness center, and 40 community park locations. The Tinley Park-Park District was established in 1967.

Tom White (Left) receives Steve Bumm Memorial Coaching Award from City of Palms Representative Donnie Wilkie (Right).

De La Salle's Tom White Wins Coaching Award at City of Palms Tournament

De La Salle Institute proudly announces that its head varsity boys basketball coach, Tom White, earned the Steve Bumm Memorial Coaching Award at the recent 37th Annual City of Palms Classic held at Bishop Verot High School in Fort Myers, FL.

White was presented the award during the final night of games as a result of his being "A coach who leads by example on and off the court and as a result of his belief in the precepts of character, sportsmanship, teamwork and the love of the game."

White, who has been the head coach at De La Salle since the 1995-96 season, has a career record of 247-142 (.635 winning percentage).

"Winning the Steve Bumm Memorial Coaching Award is a great honor," White said. "This is something that should be shared by all the players, coaches and fans of the De La Salle basketball program.

"This award is a reflection on all the great people who have contributed their time and talents to Meteor basketball. I'm very grateful to receive something this meaningful and prestigious."

De La Salle congratulates White on his achievement and wishes him every future success.

De La Salle Institute is an independent Catholic secondary school rooted in the tradition of Christian Education begun by St. John Baptist de La Salle. Founded in 1889, its mission has been, and is, to foster a desire for excellence in education. Young people from a variety of ethnic and economic backgrounds are given the opportunity to fully develop their abilities so they may be active, contributing members of our complex changing society.

St. Benedict Elementary School

2324 New Street
Blue Island, IL 60406
(708) 385-2016
Father Ismoel Sandoval, Pastor
Mrs. Susan Rys, Principal

Preschool - 8th Grade

Our Talented and Gifted Program is a model for the Archdiocese of Chicago

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Talented & Gifted Program

We are ACADEMICALLY EXCELLENT
Our 2008-2009 Terra Nova scores are well above the national average!!!

Language Arts • Spanish
Math • Social Studies
Religion • 2 Computer Labs
Science • Physical Education
Music (2 musical stage productions)
Accelerated Reading and Math
Sports • Cheerleading
Basketball • Volleyball • Soccer
Band • Drama Club • Art
Student Council • Yearbook
Scouts • Before & After Care
Daily Hot Lunch • Rainbows
Big Pal-Little Pal Program

Open House during Catholic Schools Week
January 24, 2010
11:00 am - 1:30 pm

St. Benedict School will celebrate Catholic School Week in January 2010. Come tour the school and see all the great things that go on.

www.stbenbi.org

Together We Work for the Children We Love

A VEE Corporation Production in Association with Universal Pictures Stage Productions and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Photos courtesy of VEE Corporation

Curious George Live

by Alan Bresloff

There is nothing like live theater! For many years I have said this and I truly believe that this is a truth But how do we get our hi-tech young people to put down the remote or the Wii and sit in an arena or theater? How do we get them to experience that special bonding between actor and audience? One of the ways that seems to work is by taking their familiar characters- from movies and TV and bringing them to the local venues We have had numerous Disney shows as well as Sesame and even Dora How about Curious George? That rascal of a monkey that has captured children's hearts and imaginations for generations? Perfect He is coming to our area from January 21st (the Star Plaza in Merriville) and then will move up to Sears Centre Arena in Hoffman Estates on the 28th The show, a large scale musical production will tell the story of George's mission to aide Chef Pisghetti save his restaurant by winning the Golden Meatball Contest Filled with music and dance, this promises to be a story that will entertain kids of all ages (I thing that even includes guys like me)

One of the actors in this production, Joseph Alicea took some time out of his busy schedule to talk to me today about the show and his dreams coming true A young and energetic young actor, Joseph, who has lived in New Jersey, New York, Boston and Puerto Rico (where his family is from) became interested in the theater as a young lad of five He saw "Beetlejuice" and the song "Shake,Shake,Shake,Senora" had him dancing all night At the ripe age of 8, he attended a live performance of "School House Rock" and told his mother, that this was what he wanted to do- to sing and dance and get paid for it! Wow!

While it is not that easy to become an actor, it is something that anyone can do You must first have the desire to succeed and be willing to learn, both in classes and by "doing" Most schools have programs that teach singing, dancing and even some acting, and there are also community theater groups that do plays using kids as well Being exposed to Live theater at a young age is something that I preach The earlier we expose our children to the arts, the better off they will be Joseph loves his life on the road, the Gypsy life of an actor Being 22, he knows that he has plenty of time to settle down and while he can take these gigs, he will continue to do so Who knows what his future might hold Will he become a major star? Movies? Broadway? Television? Or perhaps he will become a director, choreographer or even a costume designer He has taken classes in fashion design so like all actors he has found something to fall back on should he need to

Joseph is thrilled to be doing a "family" show, to connect the dots, so to speak, and bring characters the kids know to life, right before their eyes In this production, Joseph is an ensemble member (as well as playing Freddie the delivery man) As most of you know, I firmly feel that the ensemble is a key to a solid production They are the cast members who have to fill in the spaces and make the parts of the show become a whole Yes, the lead actors are important, but without a strong dedicated ensemble, the show would just be that a show, not a theatrical experience and based on my conversation with Joseph Alicea (remember this name- I think you will hear it again) this is a dedicated group of performers with one goal- to please and delight the audiences they will play to This is a 10 month (or more) road trip, playing all over the country and we get them in two locations

Star Plaza in Merriville

Thursday, January 21st at 10:30 a m and 7 p m

Friday, January 22nd same times

Saturday,January 23rd 1 p m and 4:30 p m

Sunday, January 24th 1 p m and 4:30 p m

Then they pack up and head out to Hoffman Estates at the Sears Centre Arena

Thursday, January 28th 10:30 a m and 7 p m

Friday, January 29th 10:30 am and 7 p m .

Saturday, January 30th at 10:30 am and 2 p m

Sunday, January 31st 1 p m and 4:30 p m

Tickets range from $17-$32

To charge tickets by phone call Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000 or online at www.ticketmaster.com

For show info check out www.curiousgeorgelive.com for venue info www.searscentre.com or www.starplazatheatre.com

Photo Credit Johnny Knight

Paul Anthony Stewart ("Nick Arnstein") and Sara Sheperd ("Fanny Brice") star in FUNNY GIRL., previewing December 31, opening January 7 and running through March 7 at Drury Lane Oakbrook Terrace, 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, Il For tickets call (630) 530-0111 or visit www.ticketmaster.com or www.drurylaneoakbrook.com

Funny Girl

by Alan Bresloff

One might call Kyle DeSantis, the Rocky Wirtz of Chicago's theater scene Since taking over as the "Executive Producer" of this wonderful suburban venue, Chicago area audiences have seen a tremendous and powerful change in the productions staged in this beautiful setting in Oakbrook He has taken this theater to a new level and like Rocky Wirtz has done with the Blackhawks, has shown that our younger executives want to make sure that those who pay to see what is offered are able to see the best that can be offered Congratulations to Kyle and his staff- you have truly made a name for yourselves Their current production, "Funny Girl" a powerful musical depicting the life of Ms Fanny Brice written by Isobel Lemart with Music by Jule Styne and Lyrics by Bob Merrill is something to behold While many think of "Funny Girl" and think Barbra Streisand, they need to re-examine the woman that this story is about, a woman of great talent and power in a time when women never spoke out, but she did A woman, who while not attractive in a physical way had the power over the audiences who watched her on stage and the men who wanted to be a part of her life (and career)

Directed by Gary Griffin and William Osetek, with Mr Osetek handling the majority of the actual direction, and assisted by David New, this is a solid production that utilizes the stage at Drury Lane Oakbrook to its full advantage Matt Rafferty, a solid dancer himself struts his stuff in his choreography of this period piece and never sways off course of the type of dance one might expect for the era in which this story takes place Jack Magaw has created a clever set that moves with ease allowing us to move from scene to scene with little or no delay and Elizabeth Flanto has created costumes that are out of this world fantastic!

While many claim that this is a one woman show that was designed and written for Streisand, this is not true It is a one woman show about a special woman in the entertainment field- a woman who may have changed the attitude of what Burlesque and Vaudeville was all about and perhaps made the musical stage for women more than being a chorus girl, Ms Fanny Brice Playing Ms Brice is the wonderful Sara Sheperd who has a powerful voice and a true feeling for the woman that she is portraying One can feel her happiness and her sadness as we go back in time with her and watch her story unveil in the two hours and 15 minutes of this powerful story We begin in her dressing room as she waits for the return of her husband from jail Nick Arnstein (Paul Anthony Stewart, who is just a little less "macho" than I would hope for in playing this character and whose voice is a little less powerful than called for) is a gambler, a man of class that changes the life of Ms Brice, but a man who wants to be "the Man" and takes chances that cause him to go to prison for 18 months As she waits, she thinks back to her early days of trying to be that star she knows she is

We go through this life story meeting the people who are of importance to her, Eddy Ryan (Jameson Cooper) her dance-coach who tries very heard to get her on the right road, her mother (a solid and very funny Cathrine Smitko, who once again shows that she has what it takes to handle character roles), a neighbor, Mrs Strakosh (another memorable role for Iris Lieberman), and of course "THE" Flo Ziegfeld (deftly handled by Marc Grapey) the man who made "follies" a word But this show wouldn't work without a glorious ensemble- a group of actors/singers/dancers/ who take on a myriad of roles and make the show complete While this show belongs to Ms Sheperd, without the ensemble, it would only be a walk down memory lane of some of the history of the theater in this era, they make it happen! Tammy Mader, Michale Accardo, Anne Acker,Adrian Aguilar,Gary Carlson,Dan Collins, Jarret Dach,Arianne Dolan,Patrick Gagnon,Kent Hanna,Nicole Hren,Mary Mulligan, David New,

Katheryn Patton, Adam Pelty,Megan Simmons, Hallie Stauder,Joey Stone (who did a great job with Cornet Man"),Erin Thompson and Zach Zube You are a powerful part of this entertainment experience and should be proud of what you bring to the stage

"Funny Girl" is a musical that almost everyone of my generation knows with songs that we all remember," People","Don't Rain on My Parade","Who Are You Know", "You are Woman, I Am Man" and " I Am The Greatest Star just to name a few and it was great to see the young people in the audience respond to these songs from "yesteryear" It show the power of musical theater That it lives on and can be enjoyed by generation after generation and as long as our regional theaters keep reviving and allowing our young audiences to enjoy the true musicals, they will continue to live on For this we need to thank Kyle DeSantis and other theater producers of our area This is a must see show Don't come with the idea of comparing Ms Sheperd to Ms Streisand, but do come to see this young actress (with a powerful voice) depict the character of one Fanny Brice This, she does to perfection (except she is much prettier)

"Funny Girl" will run at Drury Lane Oakbrook through March 7th with performances as follows

Wednesdays at 1:30 p m

Thursdays at 1:30 p m and 8 p m

Fridays at 8:30 p m

Saturdays at 5 p m and 8:30 p m

Sundays at 2 p m and 6 p m

Tickets range from $29-$38, a true bargain for theater of this quality and lunch/dinner packages are available fro $43.70-$61.00 (an even better deal) Student and senior discounts are available as well

For reservations call 630-530-0111 or you can call Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000 or visit www.ticketmaster.com or www.drurylaneoakbrook.com

Drury Lane Oakbrook is located at 100 Drury Lane in Oakbrook (just north of the Oakbrook Shopping Center) and has plenty of free parking

Are you an artist looking for an opportunity to show off your talents and challenge your creativity?

The Village of Tinley Park is seeking amateur and/or professional artists, teachers and students, groups and individuals interested in participating in our annual Benches on the Avenue public art project.

Artists will be selected based on their portrayal of the 2010 theme -- "When I Grow Up." Participants are encouraged to use their creativity to focus on depicting various occupations, encouraging children to think about what they want to be when they grow up.

For more information, please e-mail nbyrne@tinleypark.org or call 708-444-5046 to request complete guidelines for submission. The deadline is quickly approaching.

Oak Lawn Garden Club

January 28th at Oak View Center 9:30 am-12:00pm
4625 W. 110th Street
708-857-2200

Members will bring pressed flowers and these are shared by everyone to make book marks.

Flower and Garden Show on March 11th with the Oak Lawn Garden Club

The bus leaves Oak View Center at 9 am and returns at PM. The cost is 25.00 for the bus and admission to the show.

Donuts and bottled water will be served on the bus. Lunch is on your own. Sign up early.

June Curtis 708-499-0578 or Marianne Prendergrast 708-784-0744

Orland Township News

Orland Township Sponsoring a Senior Trip to the Illinois Holocaust Museum/Lunch at Maggiano's

Join Orland Township on Tuesday, March 23, 2010 on this fabulous tour which includes the Bahai House of Worship in Wilmette, IL., the only temple of the Bahai faith on this continent. The tour includes a film in the visitors center, a tour of the main sanctuary as well as the spectacular gardens. To rest our weary feet, lunch will be served at Maggiano's Restaurant where you'll enjoy a delicious luncheon of a Maggiano's Salad, Mom's Lasagna, Chicken Parmesan, and Italian Green Beans. Dessert will be Warm Apple Crostada served with Coffee, Tea or a Soft Drink. Our last stop will be the Illinois Holocaust Museum which is dedicated to preserving the legacy of the Holocaust by honoring the memories of those who were lost and by teaching the universal lessons that combat hatred, prejudice and indifference. The museum features an inspiring Hall of Remembrance for contemplation and reflection and a permanent exhibition chronicling life before, during and after the Holocaust. This trip is a must!

Resident tickets will be available for $74.00 at the Orland Township Office, 14807 Ravinia, Orland Park starting Thursday, January 21. Non resident tickets will be available for $79.00 on February 4. Ticket price includes entrance fees to the Bahai House of Worship, the Illinois Holocaust Museum, Lunch at Maggiano's, and deluxe coach transportation. Buses will depart from the north side of 151st Street, directly west of the Bank Financial parking lot, at 8:45 a.m. and return at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, the western half of Tinley Park, and the unincorporated area of Orland Township. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m. For more information contact Kathy Kenyeri, Senior Services Coordinator, at (708) 403-4222.

Orland Township Sponsoring a Senior Trip to the Illinois Holocaust Museum/Lunch at Maggiano's

Join Orland Township on Tuesday, March 23, 2010 on this fabulous tour which includes the Bahai House of Worship in Wilmette, IL., the only temple of the Bahai faith on this continent. The tour includes a film in the visitors center, a tour of the main sanctuary as well as the spectacular gardens. To rest our weary feet, lunch will be served at Maggiano's Restaurant where you'll enjoy a delicious luncheon of a Maggiano's Salad, Mom's Lasagna, Chicken Parmesan, and Italian Green Beans. Dessert will be Warm Apple Crostada served with Coffee, Tea or a Soft Drink. Our last stop will be the Illinois Holocaust Museum which is dedicated to preserving the legacy of the Holocaust by honoring the memories of those who were lost and by teaching the universal lessons that combat hatred, prejudice and indifference. The museum features an inspiring Hall of Remembrance for contemplation and reflection and a permanent exhibition chronicling life before, during and after the Holocaust. This trip is a must!

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Tickets on Sale for Blue Chip Casino Trip for Seniors

Forget every casino you have ever visited and join Orland Township as we head to the Blue Chip Casino in Michigan City on Thursday, February 4, 2010. The Blue Chip gaming environment is so spacious and comfortable as all gaming is located on one luxurious level. Try your luck at the tables and slots and be sure to bring identification along, with you to collect your winnings. Tickets are on sale now to residents for $35.00. Non-resident tickets will be available for $40.00 starting Thursday, January 21. Tickets can be purchased at Orland Township Office, 14807 Ravinia Drive, Orland Park. Ticket price includes deluxe motorcoach transportation, a great lunch buffet and $10.00 in free slot play. Buses will leave from the north side of 151st Street, directly west of the Bank Financial parking lot, at 8:30 a.m. and return at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, the western half of Tinley Park, and the unincorporated area of Orland Township. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m. For more information contact Kathy Kenyeri, Senior Services Coordinator, at (708) 403-4222.

Valentine Dinner Dance

Orland Township is sponsoring a Valentine Dinner Dance for Seniors age 55 and over. The dinner dance will be held on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at the Orland Chateau, 14500 S. LaGrange Rd., Orland Park, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tickets are necessary and may be purchased at the Orland Township office, 14807 Ravinia Drive, Orland Park. Resident tickets are available now for $16.00 each. Non-resident tickets will be available for $21.00 each beginning Thursday, January 21. Ticket price includes a family style meal and entertainment by The Ken Jandes Orchestra. Door prizes and a 50/50 raffle will be offered.

Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, the western half of Tinley Park, and the unincorporated area of Orland Township. The Orland Township office is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Kathy Kenyeri, Senior Services Coordinator, at (708) 403-4222.

Senior Luncheon Offered at Orland Township

Orland Township is hosting a senior luncheon to residents' age 55 and older on Thursday, February 18, 2010. The luncheon will be held in the Orland Township Activity Center, 14807 Ravinia, Orland Park, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Doors open at 11:15 a.m.

Tickets for Orland Township residents are available at the Orland Township Office, 14807 Ravinia, Orland Park. Ticket price of $7.00 includes a lunch of Baked Lasagna, Italian Sausage, Italian Green Beans, Garden Salad with Dressing, Rolls, Dessert and Beverage. Entertainment for the afternoon will be Gene Infelise, entertaining the audience with songs spanning Rat Pack Jazz, Standards, Ballads, Oldies and Pop.

Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, the western half of Tinley Park and the unincorporated area of Orland Township. The Orland Township office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

For more information contact Kathy Kenyeri, Senior Services Coordinator at (708) 403-4222.

Crafters Corner & More

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50th Year Reunion needs your help

If anyone knows the where abouts of the following people, it would complete the list of Graduates for our 50th Year reunion of the 1960 Class from Loretto Englewood H.S.

Eileen Heilbronner (Malzone)
Margie Johnston (Hildebrand)
Mary Ann Lain (Hackler)
Marilyn Murray (Cox)
Barbara Mutter (Young)
Maria del Carmen Rangel (Zinzer)
Kathleen Reynolds (Macaitis)
Judith Sargent (Breen)
Yvonne Sarvey
Carmen Torres
Donna Vanek (Konecki)

The Reunion is May 2, 2010 in Wheaton, IL.
Please contact, Annette Stella Dixon 312-624-8996

History You Can Sink Your Teeth Into

(NAPSA)-In 1902, America was a rapidly growing and changing nation. It was a time of invention, industrial innovation and accelerated immigration, blending cultures and cuisines. It was also a time when many favorite all-American foods-such as peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, animal crackers and banana splits- first became popular.

That year also marked the very first time light and dark corn syrups became available in tins. Karo Corn Syrup, founded that year, quickly became a favorite ingredient in desserts, breads, sweet rolls, sauces and fillings.

The syrup, now considered as American as apple pie, is an essential ingredient in a Stars and Stripes Cheesecake or a delicious Cran-Blueberry Pie.

Stars and Stripes Cheesecake
Prep Time: 30 minutes
Cook Time: 25 minutes
Chill Time: 1 hour
Yield: 15 servings

Graham Cracker Crust
1 cup graham cracker crumbs
3 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted
2 tablespoons sugar

Cheesecake
3 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, at room temperature
1 3 cup sugar
2 tablespoons Argo or Kingsford's Corn Starch
1 cup Karo Light Corn Syrup
3 eggs
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 cup fresh blueberries
1 pound strawberries, halved (about 3 cups)
1 cup heavy or whipping cream, whipped, or whipped topping

Preheat oven to 325 F. To prepare graham cracker crust: Combine crumbs, butter and 2 Tbsp. sugar. Press into the bottom of a 13 x 9-inch baking dish.

To prepare cheesecake: Beat cream cheese, sugar and corn starch in a large bowl with mixer at medium speed until smooth. Beat in corn syrup, eggs and lemon juice until blended and smooth.

Pour into prepared baking dish. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or just until set.

Cool on wire rack. Refrigerate until well chilled. Arrange blueberries (about 30 to 40) in rows in upper left corner of cheesecake to form a rectangle, spacing rows about 1/2 inch apart (to leave room for whipped cream).

Arrange halved strawberries on top of remaining portion of cheesecake also in rows about 3/4 inch apart, like a flag. Place whipped cream in a plastic bag and snip off the corner of the bag.

Use the bag to pipe whipped cream between the rows of blueberries and strawberries, completing the flag design. Keep refrigerated.

Cran-Blueberry Pie
Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cook Time: 40 to 45 minutes
Yield: 1 pie (8 servings)

1 package (12 ounces) frozen blueberries (about 2 1/2 cups)
2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries
3/4 cup sugar
1/2 cup Karo Light Corn Syrup
1/4 cup Argo or Kingsford's Corn Starch
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/8 teaspoon salt
2 (9-inch) unbaked pie crusts

Glaze
1/4 cup powdered sugar
1 to 1 1/2 teaspoons milk

Preheat oven to 375 F. Combine blueberries, cranberries, sugar, corn syrup, corn starch, cinnamon and salt in a large saucepan. Cook over medium-high heat, stirring frequently, until cranberry skins begin to pop.

Assemble pie by placing one crust in pie plate. Pour in filling. Top with remaining crust. Flute edges and cut slits in top crust to vent. Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until top is lightly browned.

Prepare Glaze. Stir powdered sugar and milk together until smooth. Spread over hot crust. Cool pie on wire rack. (Let pie cool completely before cutting, or filling will be runny.)

You will find more recipes and tips at www.karosyrup.com, or call (866) 430-KARO (5276).

They'll cheer for this Stars and Stripes Cheesecake that's almost as easy to make as it is to enjoy.

A Cran-Blueberry Pie can be a delicious way to celebrate your patriotism.

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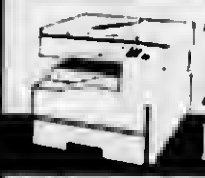

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Far South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Forest / Orland Park / Tinley Park

Volume 8 Number 2

January 19, 2010

Orland Park resident named to Chicago Magazine's Top Doctors List

Orland Park resident Dr. James Stankiewicz of Loyola University Health System has been named to Chicago magazine's annual list of Chicago's Top Doctors.

The list was compiled by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., a health-care research and information company. Castle Connolly surveyed physicians and the medical leadership of leading hospitals to identify "highly skilled, exceptional doctors."

Stankiewicz was named a top doctor in the otolaryngology category. The list is included in the January, 2010 issue of Chicago magazine, on newsstands now. Stankiewicz is among 32 Loyola doctors named to the list.

"We are honored to have so many of our physicians on the Top Doctors list," said Dr. Paul Whelton, president and CEO of Loyola University Health System. "They have earned the esteem of their colleagues by excelling in our three primary missions -- patient care, cutting-edge research and medical education."

To schedule an appointment with a Loyola physician, call toll-free (888) LUHS-888.

Energy Conservation Programs offered for Orland Park businesses

The following energy efficiency programs are currently offered for Orland Park businesses. Applications for ComEd programs must be received by January 31, 2010 in order to access an Orland Park reservation of $200,000 in Smart Ideas for Your Business incentives.

COM ED's Smart Ideas for Your Business Incentives

The below EE and EC incentives can provide up to a 30% incentive from ComEd.

A. General Incentives: ComEd provides general or prescriptive incentives for EE projects dealing with HVAC, Lighting, Refrigeration, and Motors. The incentives are paid based on the quantity, size and efficiency of the equipment.

B. Smart Returns Load Response. There are 2 load response programs: Capacity Based and Voluntary. Both essentially deal with businesses signing up and committing to helping ComEd reduce peak energy demand. ComEd calls businesses and asks them to turn off unnecessary equipment (e.g. TVs, radios, computers, machines etc.). An incentive is paid based on the number of kWh reduced at the end of the year.

C. New Construction: The New Construction incentive encourages businesses doing remodeling or renovation work, building an expansion, or integrating new lighting (e.g. daylighting) and other systems to install energy efficient and high performance system. The program is designed for a whole building model approach.

D. Retro-Commissioning: This incentive is a full building energy tune-up. ComEd analyzes the energy use and characteristics of the facility and targets energy saving opportunities, resulting in the identification and implementation of no-cost to low-cost EE improvements. Improves outside air control and indoor air quality; eliminates hot or cold spots; decreases supply air pressure set point and system rebalancing; reduces supply air temp and fan speed in air handling units; optimizes chiller or other equipment operation; adjusts and corrects equipment operating schedules. Property owners must commit $10,000 to $20,000 worth of improvements. The Village may be able to assist with funding a portion of this commitment. Interested businesses should contact the Development Services Department at 708-403-5300 to find out what additional funds may be available.

E. Custom Incentives: For energy projects that do not neatly fit in the above categories, ComEd offers the custom incentives as an opportunity to address energy efficiency in systems not as common as the aforementioned.

Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce to honor its Chairman

The Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce will honor its Chairman of the Board, Saint Xavier University's Maureen Kelly (right), at its annual dinner from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Feb. 4 at Chicago Gaelic Park in Oak Forest, 6119 W. 147th St.

Kelly has served as Saint Xavier's Executive Director of Community & Government Relations since May 2004. She served as a Special Assistant to U.S. Senator Dick Durbin from 1997 to 2004, during which time she first became involved with the Southland Chamber.

Shortly after her arrival at Saint Xavier, Kelly was invited to fill a Board vacancy by then-Chairman Jim Bush. She soon became involved in the Government Affairs and Political Action Committee, and served as Vice Chair of the Chamber's Government Affairs committee from 2007 to 2009. In that position, Maureen organized the Chamber's annual Springfield and Washington, D.C. trips and spearheaded the Chamber's legislative agenda.

Kelly also serves on the Women's Leader Council for Mercy Home for Boys & Girls; member of the City Club of Chicago; Chicago Women in Government Relations; Chicago Area Public Affairs Group; Irish Fellowship Club of Chicago; Beverly Area Planning Association; and the Chicagoland, Evergreen Park, Oak Lawn and Orland Park Chambers of Commerce.

For more information about this ticketed event, please visit the Chamber's website at www.chicagosouthland.com or call (708) 957-6950.

Local artist brightens up nonprofit's fundraiser

Antonia Ruppert painting to be auctioned at Together We Cope event

Antonia Ruppert of Oak Forest found a lifeline for her family of four when job loss struck during this recession, and now she's used her talent to return the favor.

Ruppert, an artist and art teacher, donated her painting of a summer day at Yankee Woods near Oak Forest for auction at Together We Cope's annual dinner dance Friday, March 5 at Odyssey Country Club in Tinley Park. She did so in gratitude for TWC's assistance during a period when the economic downturn affected her family, like it did millions of other Americans. "Together We Cope helped us through a crisis; and we are forever grateful to them," Ruppert said.

The artist works from a studio in her home, and also offers private art instruction and art classes for homeschooled children. She attributes her interest in art to her father, who drew pictures for her when she was a child, and to her grandmother, who inspired her to believe in herself. She does private and public commissions, and her work is on display at several local public facilities.

"My work focuses greatly on nature, but I also love to paint the human figure – especially faces," Ruppert said of her work.

Together We Cope is a nonprofit agency that assists families in crisis from Bremen, Orland, Palos and Worth townships. The annual dinner dance features a silent auction of items that include airline tickets, a week's stay in a vacation condo, jewelry, sports memorabilia and gift baskets. Ticket and donation information is available from Karen Moran at (708) 633-5040.

Antonia Ruppert, left, presents "Summer's Joy" to Kathryn Straniero, executive director of Together We Cope

E-mail address: vvnew@sbcglobal.net

South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Volume 11 Number 2

January 19, 2010

Palos Park Resident and Loyola Doctor Named to Chicago Magazine's Top Doctors List

Dr. Jonathan Muraskas

Palos Park resident Dr. Jonathan Muraskas of Loyola University Health System has been named to Chicago magazine's annual list of Chicago's Top Doctors.

The list was compiled by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., a health-care research and information company. Castle Connolly surveyed physicians and the medical leadership of leading hospitals to identify "highly skilled, exceptional doctors."

Muraskas was named a top doctor in the neonatal-perinatal category. The list is included in the January, 2010 issue of Chicago magazine, on newsstands now. Muraskas is among 32 Loyola doctors named to the list.

"We are honored to have so many of our physicians on the Top Doctors list," said Dr. Paul Whelton, president and CEO of Loyola University Health System. "They have earned the esteem of their colleagues by excelling in our three primary missions -- patient care, cutting-edge research and medical education."

To schedule an appointment with a Loyola physician, call toll-free (888) LUHS-888.

Registration for spring classes ongoing at Moraine Valley

Moraine Valley Community College is continuing registration for the spring 2010 semester, which starts January 19 with on-campus credit classes. Off-campus credit classes and on-campus continuing education classes begin January 25, and off-campus continuing education classes begin February 1.

Some of the college's courses are offered through flexible learning options including:

Virtual College classes, Short-Term Classes, Weekend Classes, Off-Campus Classes, One-Day-a-Week Daytime Classes and Telecourses.

Information on all credit and non-credit classes is available in the spring 2010 class schedule or online at morainevalley.edu. Tuition is $87 per credit hour plus fees and books. Students can register in person by visiting the Admissions, Records and Registration Office, located on campus in the Student Services Center (formerly the College Center), 9000 W. College Pkwy. in Palos Hills; by phone with an operator by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556); or online via the college's Web site, at morainevalley.edu.

Commissioner Murphy announces tax review, broad band stimulus funds

Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy is pleased to inform residents of Bremen and Palos Townships that the Cook County Board of Review is reviewing real estate property tax appeals until February 22nd. The Board of Review is the second level of appeals in property tax review after appeal to the Cook County Assessor. The service is for all Cook County residents and is a no cost and no risk service of Cook County. Your property taxes may be reduced based on evidence of incorrect representation of the property, or of similar properties in the area. The Board of Review is here to help in the event a taxpayer believes they are being assessed incorrectly.

An appeal can be argued if a homeowner feels the market value is overstated, or on a lack of uniformity. In the lack of uniformity cases, comparable homes within the same classification, the same neighborhood code, and similar square footage can be submitted.

Murphy is also pleased to announce that the Cook County Bureau of Technology is in the process of preparing a grand application for Broadband Stimulus funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). In addition to a grant application for expanding the County's broadband infrastructure network, the county is preparing a grant application for the establishment and ongoing support of regional Public Computer Centers (PCC) in the economically challenged and underserved communities in suburban Cook County.

Commissioner Murphy is in the process of identifying local governments, school, libraries and other organizations in the 6th District that would be interested and committed to working with the County to establish PCCs. Given the funding, the County would establish PCCs in targeted areas with high speed broadband and in conjunction with other corporate partners provide computer equipment, related peripherals and training to create viable learning centers in the local communities.

Commissioner Murphy is also in the process of identifying corporate partners who would provide funding and support for the ongoing sustainability of the PCCs. Training classes would include basic computer literacy training and use of the Internet for students and adults in the communities for educational or job enrichment purposes.

Please contact the office of Commissioner Murphy at 708-389-2125 for additional information or if you would like your organization to be considered in the PCC's program.

The Joffrey Ballet presents Cinderella

The Joffrey Ballet's 2009-2010 "Season of Legends" continues with Sir Frederick Ashton's *Cinderella*, back by popular demand. Widely considered one of the greatest ballet interpretations of this timeless fairytale, Ashton's *Cinderella* is an enchanting fantasy full of splendor, humor and magic. The Chicago Sinfonietta, the official orchestra of The Joffrey Ballet, under the baton of conductor Scott Speck, will provide live musical accompaniment of Sergei Prokofiev's classic score. Cinderella will take place at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Parkway, in nine performances only, February 17 – February 28, 2010.

"As a company known for its many 'firsts,' The Joffrey Ballet was the first to perform Ashton's Cinderella in America in October 2006," notes Joffrey Ballet Artistic Director Ashley C. Wheater. "Having worked closely with Sir Ashton at The Royal Ballet, I can confidently say that The Joffrey upholds the full ingenuity, sincerity and authenticity of his brilliant work. A work for the entire company, Cinderella is one of the Joffrey's most popular and lavish productions ever and we are proud to revive it this season."

Acquiring Ashton's Cinderella was a longtime dream of Joffrey Ballet founder Robert Joffrey, and it was his last wish that the Company perform this production. When it premiered in 2006 it was the first brand new, full-length story ballet that The Joffrey had mounted since The Nutcracker premiered in 1987. The Joffrey Ballet retains the exclusive rights to perform Ashton's Cinderella.

Performed in three acts with 39 different characters portrayed, Cinderella is a rags-to-riches fairytale about a downtrodden young Cinderella, a glass slipper and a handsome prince, who are all brought together by a fairy godmother. Ashton creates a mysterious and magical world where pumpkins become coaches, rags turn to ball gowns, and the comedy of Cinderella's pantomime stepsisters—portrayed, as is tradition, by male dancers—provides the perfect foil for the developing romance of Cinderella and the Prince.

Time and Dates: Wednesday, February 17 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, February 19 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, February 20 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.; Friday, February 26 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, February 27 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, February 28 at 2:00 p.m.

Single tickets, priced from $25 to $145, are available for purchase at The Joffrey Ballet's official Box Office, located in the lobby of 10 E. Randolph Street , as well as the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University box office, all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers, by telephone at (800) 982-2787 or online at www.ticketmaster.com. For more information about The Joffrey Ballet and current productions please call 312-386-8905 or visit joffrey.org.

E-mail address: vvnew @sbcglobal.net

B-MAC EDITION

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 Number 2

January 19, 2010

Alsip approves amending employment pay

By Matt Mayer

The village board approved an ordinance at the at the Alsip Board of Trustees meeting amending the compensation and rate of pay for certain employees and appointed officers of the village. An ordinance amending the number of authorized liquor licenses and an ordinance for the subdivision of property at 3750 W. 131st Street was also approved.

Other higblights: The village board approved a resolution for the execution of a fire protection services agreement between the village and Arrow Ridge Estates and Arrow Mobile Park Inc as well as a request for the renewal of a lease agreement for the village owned property at 12204 S. 45th Avenue. The agreement includes a 12-percent rent increase. A request to purchase a replacement copier for the Water Division of the Building Department office from Proven Business Systems at a cost not to exceed $7,000.00 was approved. The month of January was proclaimed South Suburban PADS Awareness month.

Art Club accepting new members

The Art Club is accepting new members. This is a painting only class that invites all skill levels. Members may use either oil or acrylic paints. Participants must provide their own supplies, including canvas. On Wednesdays (this is a continuing class so stop in on a whim!) from 12:00-3:00 pm at Memorial Park Banquet Hall, in Blue Island, IL. Ages 18 plus, and Price is $8 a class – Registration is not necessary. Please bring payment to class. Instructor: Barbara Morrane 708.389.3266.

Sign Language – Introduction

This program will introduce the basics of sign language including the alphabet, numbers and conversational basics on Thursdays, dates are Session C: January 23, - February 27, 2010, from 5:00-6:00pm. Open to all ages at the Veterans Memorial School in Blue Island, IL. The Price: $15/resident $20/non-resident- Instructor: Kevin McCann Program#: 260011. Call for further details at 708-389-3266.

The Joffrey Ballet presents Cinderella

The Joffrey Ballet's 2009-2010 "Season of Legends" continues with Sir Frederick Ashton's *Cinderella*, back by popular demand. Widely considered one of the greatest ballet interpretations of this timeless fairytale, Ashton's *Cinderella* is an enchanting fantasy full of splendor, humor and magic. The Chicago Sinfonietta, the official orchestra of The Joffrey Ballet, under the baton of conductor Scott Speck, will provide live musical accompaniment of Sergei Prokofiev's classic score. Cinderella will take place at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Parkway, in nine performances only, February 17 – February 28, 2010.

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Sir Frederick Ashton joined The Royal Ballet of London as choreographer when the company was founded in 1931 and served as its Artistic Director from 1963 to 1970. When Cinderella premiered at the Sadler's Wells Ballet (London) in December 1948, it was not only Ashton's first full-evening ballet, but also the first production in the West to use Prokofiev's hauntingly brilliant score, which was composed specifically for Ashton's choreography. Ashton later revised and restaged Cinderella for The Royal Ballet in 1965. As a young dancer, Wheater trained at The Royal Ballet School in London, and at age 13 he worked with Ashton on the World Premiere of Benjamin Britten's Death in Venice. Wendy Ellis Somes, a former dancer with The Royal Ballet, staged and directed Ashton's Cinderella for The Joffrey Ballet, with the production boasting breathtaking sets and costumes designed by David Walker.

Performance Schedule and Pricing for Cinderella:

Wednesday, February 17 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, February 19 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, February 20 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.; Friday, February 26 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, February 27 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, February 28 at 2:00 p.m.

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The 2009-2010 season of Legends will conclude with a mixed repertory program entitled Eclectica, April 28 – May 9, 2010, which will feature Gerald Arpino's Reflections, and two newly commissioned works, The Madness of Crowds by the innovative choreographer James Kudelka, and Crossed by distinguished dancer and choreographer Jessica Lang. For more information about The Joffrey Ballet and current productions please call 312.386.8905 or visit joffrey.org.

Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library announces upcoming events

Alsip Library Antiques Show 2010 will be held on Thursday, February 25, at 7:00 PM

If you have always wondered how much your treasured antique is worth, this is your chance to find out! Bring it in to be appraised by Rex Newell of Rex's Antiques. He will appraise and discuss "hand-held" antiques and collectibles brought in by the audience. The first 40 people to sign in at the meeting room door can have one item appraised. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Rex specializes in art, time pieces and 1950s modern items. Sorry, but please do not bring any Native American or Oriental pieces. Everyone is welcome to attend this program.

Computer Classes

We will be offering 8 different computer classes. John Hojek, will be your instructor.

Beginning Computers
Friday, Feb. 26, 10 A.M. — 2 P.M.
Beginning Internet
Friday, March 12, 10 A.M. — 2 P.M.
Beginning Email
Friday, March 19, 10 A.M. — 2 P.M.
Microsoft Word
Friday, March 26, 10 A.M. — 2 P.M.
Microsoft Excel
Friday, April 16, 10 A.M. — 2 P.M.
Microsoft Excel Part 2
Friday, April 30, 10 A.M. — 2 P.M.
Microsoft Power Point
Friday, May 07, 10 A.M. — 2 P.M.
PC TLC
Friday, May 14, 10 A.M. — 12:30 P.M.

New registration procedure:

The first 15 people to come and sign in at the meeting room door & pay a $10 nonrefundable registration fee can get in the class. Doors open at 9:30 A.M. If you have questions please call the Reference Desk at 708-371-5666 exts. 108 or 109. Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library is located at 11960 S. Pulaski Road Alsip, IL. 60803.

E-mail address: vvnew @sbcglobal.net

Your Suburban Newspaper for 36 years

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Lawn / Burbank / Hickory Hills / Evergreen Park

Volume 36 Number 15

February 2, 2010

Keith Bilski, resident of Oak Lawn wins the Gold in The Special Olympic Basketball Competition! This is his 23rd Gold in the Special Olympics since he began competing.

Cook County grant funds awarded to various communities

Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy is pleased to announce the award of Justice Assistance Grant funds to Cook County in the amount of $417,030.00. Cook County will share these funds with six municipalities in the 6th District. The communities of Bridgeview, Calumet City, Chicago Ridge, Ford Heights, Oak Lawn and Orland Park are to receive $69,505.00 each for a total of $417,030.00. The U.S. Department of Justice/Office of Justice Programs has provided these funds to Cook County to be used in local public safety programs for law enforcement and crime prevention including anti-gang activities.

Over the past four years the Cook County Board has allocated $766,396.00 to these six municipalities to improve the criminal justice system with emphasis on violent crime and serious offenders to create safer communities.

The Justice Assistance Grant Program was created by Congress to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime. It is based on local needs and conditions to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed most.

For more information call the Office of Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy at (708) 389-2125.

Louis S. Viverito, Stickney Township Supervisor announces Valentine's Day Party

The Louis S. Viverito Senior Center located at 7745 S. Leamington Ave. in Burbank will be hosting a Valentine's Day Party on Thursday, February 11, 2010: Live music entertainment provided by Chicagoland's popular duo sensation, Afterglow, featuring Gene and Francesca. The duo will start the day at 10:00 a.m. followed by bingo at 12:30. The party begins at 9:30 A.M. Join us for a fun filled day of bingo, crowning of our annual King and Queen and lunch.

Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. To register for the party please call (708) 636-8850.

Things to do in Evergreen Park

Thurs. February 4th, the teens in grades 6-12 can learn the fine art of doughnut making at the EP Library. Chef Kate Bradley will do demonstrations from 6:30-7:30. Call asap to register at 422-8522.

Save the Date of Sat. Feb. 6th for Mayor Sexton's Annual Flake Fest which will be located at the ice rink and fire house 89th and Kedzie Ave. 11am-12pm Free Skating.

Spring Tree Program is underway. Come to Village Hall and get the new brochure.

New trees available for your parkway or yard. The Program ends March 26th

Census 2010 is coming. Please respond to questionaires that will soon be arriving in your mailbox. Be counted.

Note: EP Youth Department has new hours Tues. - Fri. 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Sat. - Sun. Closed

Happy Valentine's Day

Hickory Hills Park District announces their programs

After School – Sports of All Sorts

The Hickory Hills Park District will hold After School – Open Gym on Wednesdays, now - March 31 at Krueger Park Rec. Center from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., for children 8 – 11 year olds. Pay at the door: $2.

Hoops

Open basketball for 5th – 12th grade boys and girls is available on Fridays, now – April 16: 5th – 8th grade attend from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.; 9th – 12th grade attend from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center, 9100 S. 88th Ave. Enjoy fast break games. Fee: $3 (5th – 8th grade each day, pay at the door); $5 (9th – 12th each day, pay at the door).

Fitness Programs

The hottest fitness craze is here… Zumba! Join us every Tuesday at Krueger Park Rec. Center from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. This high-energy class combines aerobic exercise with Latin dance moves. The steps are very repetitive and surprisingly easy to learn, not to mention fun! Pay at the door: Resident: $5; Non-Resident $6 (16 yrs & Up).

The 2010 Resolution Workout is designed to help you gain or maintain your personal fitness goal. Gain knowledge about exercise and nutrition, measure your progress and have fun. This class meets on Mondays & Wednesdays, February 22 – March 31 from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center.

Fee: Resident $51; Non-Resident $56 (16 yrs & Up).

Hatha Yoga will be offered on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., February 24 – March 31 for participants 17 years or older at Krueger Park Rec. Center. This class is designed to accommodate beginners and continuing students. Fee: Resident: $45; Non-Resident: $50.

Safe Driving Program

The Hickory Hills Park District will offer a Safe Driving Program class Thursday & Friday, February 25 & 26, 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. This class is designed for drivers age 50 and older to brush up on their driving skills, and pick up new ideas to drive safely and defensively. Completion of this 8-hour course may qualify you for reduced auto insurance rates. In addition, you will receive a certificate from the Secretary of State after attending both days. Pre-registration is required for this class. Resident: $13; Non-Resident: $15.

Soccer Programs at Hickory Hills Park District Saturday Soccer will be 5 vs. 5 competition (4 players and a goalie). Each team will play 8 games. All players will receive a t-shirt. Games times will be 1:30 or 2:30. February 20-April 17. Ages: 10-14 years. Fee: Resident $27, Non-Resident: $32.

For more information about special events and programming, please call 708-598-1233 or visit our website at www.hhparkdistrict.org

February 16th is Village View's Senior and Health Issue. This would be the perfect issue for your advertising. Contact Linda at 708-312-8996.

EPCHS STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AT MUSTANG PRIDE BREAKFAST

Congratulations to the 22 Evergreen Park Community High School students who were recognized for receiving the Mustang Pride Award at a breakfast in the school's cafeteria on January 28, 2010: Jessica Bindas, Justin Briante, Celena Campbell, Vince Cericola, Johnivan Darby, Zevon Davis, Andrew DeDecker, Erin Graf, Austin Hamberlin, Brittany Hewing, Beth Ireben, Julia Jacquez, Joseph Keleher, Tom Martin, Alyssa Oresky, Ben Pimentel, Georgina Ponce, John Smith, Ashley Spitzig, Demari Strzelczyk, Rachel Torrez, and Briana White. These students were recognized for unusual achievement both in and out of the classroom. Their parents were invited to the ceremony in their honor, sponsored by the principal, where the students received a certificate of recognition.

Simple Saliva test to detect and prevent diseases like those seen in 'Extraordinary Measures' now available in Illinois

New Pre-pregnancy Test May Save Lives, Assist in Creating Healthy Pregnancies, and Dramatically Cut Future Healthcare Costs

Rare genetic diseases like those seen in the new Harrison Ford movie "Extraordinary Measures" can now be detected prior to pregnancy and prevented by performing a simple saliva test that is covered by many insurers.

The movie centers on the real-life efforts of a Connecticut family, the Crowleys, to find a cure for a rare genetic disease named Pompe which affects two of the family's three children. The condition wasn't detected until after their children were born.

Now, couples can take a Universal Genetic Test before pregnancy to determine whether their baby may be at risk for more than 100 life-threatening genetic diseases such as Tay-Sachs, spinal muscular atrophy, cystic fibrosis and more. Test results are received after two weeks, then discussed and reviewed carefully with your physician. Should couples be at-risk for genetic disease, they can work with a reproductive endocrinologist to screen their embryos through a method called preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD). The latest PGD technology allows all 24 chromosomes to be screened for genetic disease before couples pursue pregnancy by implanting embryos via in vitro fertilization.

This Universal Genetic Test was invented by scientists from Stanford and Harvard and brought to the public via a Stanford startup named Counsyl (counsyl.com). It is now offered by physicians at more than 100 prestigious medical centers across the country, including Yale Fertility Center and the Fertility Centers of Illinois (see counsyl.com/map), and has attracted support of doctors from the nation's largest hospitals, prominent academies from Yale, Harvard, and UCLA as well as religious leaders and families with genetic disease.

Dr. Angeline Beltsos, Medical Director of the Fertility Centers of Illinois, supports the Universal Genetic Test in family planning. "Every doctor and patient wants to avoid a high-risk pregnancy. Yet many people don't know that single gene disorders now account for more than 10% of infant deaths. The Universal Genetic Test is the next ultrasound: a non-invasive early warning system for couples to know if their baby is at risk," she explains.

Professor Steven Pinker of Harvard University and his wife, novelist Rebecca Goldstein, took the test last year and learned that they were both carriers for familial dysautonomia. Their children would have been at risk for this life threatening genetic disease, underscoring that the value of genetic testing is far from hypothetical. "Universal genetic testing can drastically reduce the incidence of genetic diseases, and may very well eliminate many of them," according to Professor Pinker.

Rabbi David Wolpe, of the Sinai Temple in Los Angeles, noted a personal story from his congregation: "Several years ago, a mother whose son was born with Tay-Sachs said to me sadly 'The Rabbi made sure to tell us not play Wagner's march at our wedding, but said nothing about being genetically tested.'

Ensuring that Jewish couples, and others are genetically tested is a critical task."

For additional information and testimonials please visit Counsyl's website at www.counsyl.com. A list of selected clinics is available at counsyl.com/map.

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Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
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Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Letters to the Editor

Thank you for taking a moment to read this. I am writing to you in support of KEVIN J. MURPHY, who is running for Cook County Circuit Court Judge, and I would ask you to consider voting for him on Tuesday, FEBRUARY 2, 2010 in the Democratic Primary.

In order to get to know Kevin J. Murphy, you may go to his website at www.electkevinjmurphy.com to learn more about him.

KEVIN has been an attorney for 28 years, practicing in multiple areas of the law, and has been endorsed by numerous political and civic organizations including the Chicago Fraternal Order of Police, United Hellenic Voters, Chicago Local 597 Pipe Fitters and others. He's a hard-working father of four.

Lipinski's Resolution Honoring Catholic Schools Passes the House

Congressman Dan Lipinski's resolution, H. Res. 1008, honoring the contributions of Catholic schools and celebrating Catholic Schools Week passed the House of Representatives on a voice vote. Catholic Schools Week, which begins on the last Sunday in January, has been an annual event since 1974, and this year is being celebrated Jan. 31 through Feb. 6.

Congressman Lipinski – who introduced the resolution for the fourth year in a row – paid tribute to the remarkable success of America's Catholic schools and the influence of his own Catholic school education in the following remarks, which he delivered to his colleagues on the House floor prior to the vote.

"As a proud graduate of St. Symphorosa Grammar School and St. Ignatius College Prep, and as a strong supporter of Catholic education, I am honored to sponsor this resolution again this year. Since 1974, Catholic Schools Week has celebrated how Catholic schools have positively impacted our country and has recognized their outstanding contributions in providing a strong academic and moral education, as well as teaching the importance of responsibility to one's family and community.

"The National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have provided exemplary leadership in conceptualizing and organizing Catholic Schools Week. This year's theme is timeless in scope and universal in its values: "Catholic Schools – Dividends for Life – Faith, Knowledge, Discipline, Morals."

"Today, almost 2.2 million elementary and secondary students are enrolled in nearly 7,500 Catholic schools. The graduation rate for Catholic high school students is 99 percent, and 97 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college or technical schools. In a country where worrying educational reports have sadly become an annual tradition, these statistics are truly remarkable, and should be greatly commended.

"Catholic schools are known for embracing students from all walks of life and are highly effective at providing excellent educational opportunities for minority students and disadvantaged youth. Almost fifteen percent of students in Catholic schools are not Catholic.

"In addition to producing well-educated students, Catholic schools save American taxpayers billions of dollars every

To read the text of the resolution, visit http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:H.RES.1008: To watch Congressman Lipinski's speech on YouTube, visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-btTTS3nk1Y

Remember this when your children are ready for school!

Charles Francis Fitzgerald meets with volunteer

Candidate on the southside of Chicago and Evergreen Park

Charles Francis Fitzgerald is running for Circuit Court of Cook County in the 3rd Judicial Subcircuit. This entails the southside areas of Chicago, Evergreen Park, Hometown, Burbank, and parts of Oak Lawn. His punch number is 195.

Charles has been conducting a grassroots campaign focused on personal engagement of the people. He recently attended a chili cook-off at a VFW Post in Hometown. He can also be found walking the streets of the 3rd Sub-circuit, going door to door and asking voters to compare his credentials with those of the other candidates. Many volunteers working for Fitzgerald for Judge have been doing the same thing.

Charles is a lifelong south side Chicagoan. He was born in McKinley Park and raised in the Visitation Parish by his parents, Genevieve Krzywon and Leo Fitzgerald. His parents met while working in the historic Chicago Stock Yards. He attributes his campaign strategy to his upbringing. His credentials are impressive. His office was in Mount Greenwood for many years, he was a Trial Attorney for 28 years, Legal Instructor Cook County Sheriff's Institute from 2000 to 2010, Adminsistrative Law Judge from 2001-2010, Assistant State's Attorney Cook County 1981 -1987. Fitzgerald has been Qualified/Recommended by the following Chicago Bar Assn. Cook County Bar Assn., Illinois State Bar Assn., Women's Bar Assn., Black Women Lawyers Assn., and other endorsements. For further information about Charles Fitzgerld for Judge of the 3rd Judicial Subcircuit Court www.FitzgeraldForJudge.com or www.isba.org/judicialevaluations

Avila to address Christ Lutheran Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors

Commissioner Frank Avila, with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, will speak before the Christ Lutheran Church O.W.L.S. (Older, Wiser, Lutheran Seniors) Thursday, Feb. 11 at 10:45 a.m. in the church at 14700 S. 94th Ave., Orland Park. Dale Marsh, coordinator, announced the commissioner will explain the workings of the MWRD including the Deep Tunnel Project.

Commissioner Avila has over 40 years of experience as an engineer and land surveyor, lending his talent to over 300 engineering projects. He received his bachelor of science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana and a master of science from the University of Arizona.

Chicago Ridge Public Library presents a hockey player

Wolves Player visits on February 24, 2010 at 7:00 pm! Scheduled to appear is Mike Vernace: Defenseman. Come and share your favorite stories with him. For more information on the event or to register by phone contact the library at 708/423-7753.

Vasilopita Celebrated in Pappas' Office

The 1,700-year-old observance of Vasilopita (St. Basil's Bread) was celebrated today in the office of Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas. Vasilopita, one of the oldest and most revered traditions of Orthodox Christianity, is a story of bread and hope that saved starving people in the fourth century.

Vasilopita recalls the fourth century in Cappadocia of Caesarea. With his faithful but poor flock going hungry, the bishop, St. Basil the Great, asked women to bake sweetened bread. But he gave them gold coins and instructed them to bake them in the bread.

When the baked bread was sliced and distributed to the hungry, some found the gold coins. These, it was proclaimed, would have good luck for the year.

The tradition lives today in Orthodox homes worldwide at the New Year.

"Basil's Bread fed a people for a time and sustained a faith for all time," Pappas said. "Orthodox children hear it and never forget it as adults, taking to heart a story from 17 centuries ago." Metropolitan Iakavos blessed and distributed the bread for the guests attending the Vasilopita ceremony, to which clergy from Orthodox churches around Cook County and community leaders were invited.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Republican and Good Government Proponent

I was honored to receive the endorsement of the Daily Herald Cook County Suburban Newspaper: "...Patlak also vows to fight to keep suburban satellite offices open so that taxpayers can speak to representatives of the Board of Review without having to go to Chicago - an idea we wholeheartedly support."

"What sets one candidate apart from the other, however, is experience.

Dan Patlak is a real estate broker who worked as an analyst at the Board of Review from 1999 to 2006 under previous Commissioner Maureen Murphy, now deceased.

After training to become a certified assessing officer, I was elected Wheeling Township assessor in 2005 and reelected in 2009.

The campaign continues to pick up steam and I need your vote on February 2, if you haven't voted already.

ASK FOR A REPUBLICAN BALLOT.

Dedicated to
Rosemarie Schick
12-30-2009
Mass of Resurrection
January 4, 2010
Sacred Heart Church
Palos Hills

"Rosemarie (nee Zegarski) beloved wife of George,Sr. mother of three, grandmother of five and great grandmother of one is a big accomplishment, in today's standards," stated Rev. Robert Herne. "Not only was Rose a good mother, but a wonderful friend, who always thought of others, and a good cook. She also was a good worker, and excellent bookkeeper who was honest and dependable."

What Father Herne emphasized was her love of family and people in general. Her dedication to Green Hills Library, acting as board member for many years; her alumni association with Lourdes, High School, also her constant companion, George.

Rose and George enjoyed life together, whether is was their social life in Palos Hills, family gatherings, Marco Island vacations, or St. Martin monthly luncheons. Rose would remind George, she is the boss.

Rose endured lots of pain while she underwent treatment for cancer. These were tough times for her and the family but through it all, she kept up her courage to run the family gatherings and do her bookkeeping jobs.

Ronald Zegarski, Rose's brother gave a tribute to Rose at church. If you didn't know Rose before that ology, you certainly knew her after it.

Many of Rose's family and friends were there and it was wonderful to know that 'when through one woman, a little more love and goodness, a little more light and truth come into this world, then that woman's life has had meaning.'

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Democrat

Assessor of Cook County

Paid for by Citizens to Elect Joseph Berrios

More Research Shows Diets Rich in Nutrients Can Save Sight

Prevent Blindness America Stresses Importance of Healthy Eating to Help Protect Against Blinding Eye Disease

A diet filled with green leafy vegetables is good for the waistline. But many people may not be aware of the health benefits to the eyes. Diets rich in certain antioxidants, including lutein and zeaxanthin can help protect the eyes against age-related macular degeneration, a potentially blinding eye disease for which there is no cure.

Lutein is a naturally occurring molecule found in dark green leafy vegetables such as spinach, kale and collard greens. It can also be found in corn, egg yolks and green vegetables and fruits, such as broccoli, green beans, green peas, brussel sprouts, cabbage, collard greens, lettuce, kiwi and honeydew melon.

New research shows that AMD is in part a manifestation of a lutein and zeaxanthin deficiency in the eye. AMD patients tend to have lower macular pigment. This pigment contains lutein and zeaxanthin and gives the macula its yellow coloration. Researchers concluded that by raising the level of lutein and zeaxanthin, AMD symptoms may be prevented or delayed, according to findings of the "The Value of Measurement of Macular Carotenoid Pigment Optical Densities and Distributions in Age-related Macular Degeneration and Other Retinal Disorders." (Bernstein, P.S., et al. Vision Research 2009).

"What makes this new research exciting is that, from our findings, measuring the macular pigment has the potential to become a way for eye care professionals to measure the risks for AMD and other eye diseases," said Dr. Stuart Richer, chief of optometry at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the study's co-author "Our research shows the critical impact that healthy diets can have on vision. My colleagues and I are continuing our research to help protect against unnecessary vision loss."

In addition, a study by the National Eye Institute (NEI) suggests that pharmacological-level doses of zinc, vitamins C and E, and beta carotene may help slow the progression of AMD. The benefits of the nutrients were seen only in people who were at high risk of developing advanced AMD, those with intermediate AMD in one or both eyes, and those with advanced AMD in one eye only.

AMD currently affects the vision of more than 2 million Americans, ages 50 and older, according to research by Prevent Blindness America and the NEI. AMD slowly robs people of their central vision and, if left untreated, can result in severe vision loss and even blindness. There are two forms of AMD: "dry" and "wet". Dry AMD is the most common form of the disease. It involves the presence of drusen – fatty deposits that form under the light-sensing cells in the retina. Vision loss in dry AMD usually progresses slowly. Wet AMD is less common, but more rapidly threatening to vision. Wet AMD causes tiny blood vessels under the retina to leak or break open. This distorts vision and causes scar tissue to form.

Prevent Blindness America invites the public to visit "The AMD Learning Center" preventblindness.org/amd, developed as a free online resource that provides a variety of educational tools including AMD risk factors, treatment options and the Adult Vision Risk Assessment quiz. Information is also available through the Prevent Blindness America toll-free number, (800) 331-2020. To maintain healthy eyes and lower the risk of eye disease, Prevent Blindness America recommends everyone to:

- Stop smoking
- Eat healthy foods
- Stay active
- Control your blood pressure
- Protect your eyes from the sun

For free information on AMD and other blinding eye diseases, please visit Prevent Blindness America at preventblindness.org or call (800) 331-2020.

Senior Health and Wellness fair in Worth

The Worth Park District is hosting a health and wellness fair on Wednesday, February 17th from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Terrace centre.

Admission to the fair is Free. Stay for a senior lunch from 12-2pm. The fee is $5 for pre-registration and $7 at the door.

Admission to the lunch includes a buffet, chance at a door prize and bingo.

For more information please call 708-448-7080.

Office of Senior Citizens in Evergreen Park turned room into private offices

Convenient e-filing and direct deposits are available. Phone 422-8776 for an appointment to have the assistance of our counselors in filing the Income Tax return.

Our counselors are volunteers and are available Monday through Friday from 9:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. by appointment at the Office of Citizens' Services, 3450 West 97th St., Evergreen Park, IL.

Be prepared to bring with you: "NEW" this year—must bring Real Estate Tax Bill to claim deduction for State Taxes. Property Tax Pin Numbers must be included with the State return or return will not be processed. -

Copy of last year's income tax return - W-2 forms from each employer - Unemployment compensation statements - All 1099 forms - All forms indicating federal income tax paid -Dependent care provider information (name, employer, ID, Social Security Number); all receipts or cancelled checks if itemizing deductions -

First time clients asked to bring Social Security cards for self and all dependents

The schedule allows a one-hour limit per client. Due to time/schedule constraints, business returns are not accepted.

Valentine Special at Evergreen Park Recreation Center

Yoga helps kids to develop strength, flexibility, and coordination. They practice breathing deeply to calm themselves, promoting concentration, creativity, and confidence. Join us as we explore traditional yoga poses and breathing techniques through movement, stories, games, and art.

Please bring a stuffed friend along on Saturday, February 13, 2010, starting at 10:00 am until 11:30 am at the Evergreen Park Recreation Department called the Community Center, 3450 W.97th St. The Fee will be $15.00.

Smith VILLAGE

We're living at Smith Village -
Beverly's Best Retirement Community.
Wish You Were Here!

Smith Village has it all...

New campus • Convenient location • Fitness center • Housekeeping
Restaurant style dining • Snow removal • Scheduled transportation
Maintenance • 24-hour security • Underground parking
All included in refundable entrance and monthly fees!

Celebrate Winter With Us!

Resident Panel & Sweetheart Luncheon - February 11th at 11am
Enjoy lunch while learning more about Smith Village as our residents tell all!

Teachers Luncheon - February 25th at 11am
Dine with our resident teachers and get caught up on news from your school.

Fashion Show - March 23rd at 11am
Residents models Coldwater Creek fashions over lunch

RSVP to 773-474-7300 or info@smithvillage.org
Seating is Limited • Call Theresa Today!
2320 West 113th Place • Chicago, IL 60643

*** Happy Holidays from ***
Orland Dental Care
14430 S. John Humphrey Drive • Orland Park
708.364.8900 • www.orlanddentalcare.com
$59.00 Complete Exam
Includes Exam, X-Ray & Cleaning
New Patients Only. Restrictions Apply. Not Valid with Any Other Offer
FREE Invisalign
Comprehensive Evaluation
Including X-rays and Study Models
($500 value)
Restrictions Apply. Not Valid with Any Other Offer
Excepting All Public Aid • Free Consultation • 100% Financing Available
Free Same-Day Emergency Consultation
Complete General Dental Care • Saturday & Evening Appointments Available
Digital X-ray Reduces Exposure up to 90%

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The versatility of the mixes allows for the more adventurous cook to use them as their launching pad for a more elaborate and uniquely individual dish. Pamela's Products website (www.pamelasproducts.com) is full of tried and true recipes that are simple to make. Valentine's Day Recipe ideas and tips for Breakfast, Brunch and Dessert include:

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** Heart Shaped Waffles with Berries and Cream
** Valentine's Day Gingerbread House

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Not only are there intuitive reasons why people with good posture are healthier and more active, but poor posture also has a dramatic effect on another growing problem facing older adults: falls and poor balance. According to the National Safety Council, over 1.5 million people over 65 are seriously injured each year in falls, which cause nearly 14,000 deaths, with another quarter suffering debilitating injuries that affect them for the rest of their lives. In addition, poor posture affects how well your heart can pump blood, and even how well you can breathe.

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For more info, visit www.chicagojitterbugclub.com or call 708/388-5867

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CSSIA at Moraine Valley on the forefront of cyber security awareness

Students in computer security programs at eight Illinois universities and community colleges will compete in the Illinois Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC) on Feb. 5 from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

This intense competition is hosted by the Center for Systems Security and Information Assurance (CSSIA) at Moraine Valley Community College in Building F, 9000 W. College Pkwy, Palos Hills. Southern Illinois University is virtually co-hosting the competition.

Participating colleges each will send their top information technology security students to compete. These teams will defend an operational computer network against attacks waged by a team of industry professionals from Secureworks, Inc. This is the fifth annual CSSIA-sponsored state competition. Over 250 undergraduate students will participate representing some 27 institutions throughout the Midwest.

"This competition supports information technology security preparedness in a way no other program can," said Erich Spengler, CSSIA principle investigator and professor of computer integrated technologies at Moraine Valley.

"It encourages students and faculty to excel in the latest emerging IT security technologies. It also helps decrease the time it takes graduates to become completely integrated into the commercial sector, which helps build a workforce that will thrive in a globally competitive market."

Top winners of the state competitions from Illinois, Indiana/Ohio, Michigan, and Minnesota/Wisconsin will participate in the Midwest Regional Cyber Defense Competition on March 12 and 13 in Minnesota. The regional champions qualify for the national competition.

CSSIA at Moraine Valley established the first comprehensive Information Technology Security and Data Assurance Center in the Midwest.

This center collects, categorizes, adapts, enhances, standardizes, and evaluates curriculum and offers training programs to community college and university faculty, secondary school faculty, and students across the region. To learn more about the center, visit www.cssia.org.

For information on the competitions, call Lou Balek at (708) 608-4284, e-mail balekl@morainevalley.edu or visit www.mwcdc.org.

Tinley Moraine Genealogists meet monthly

There will be a monthly meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2010; the speaker will be Kathy O'Leary. "Using GOOGLE for your Genealogy Research"

TIME: DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM
BUSINESS MEETING AT 6:45PM
PROGRAM BEGINS AT 7:00PM
LOCATION: TINLEY PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
7851 Timber Drive
(80th Avenue and 180th Street)
TINLEY PARK, ILLINOIS

Kathy O'Leary, Member of TMG and popular lecturer on Irish genealogy and internet research will update us on the latest on using Google information for finding images and setting up Google alerts. This is a valuable tool for researching our ancestry in the 21st century.

There is usually a speaker at every meeting which is beneficial for all Genealogists.

For those who would like to know more about the meetings, contact, Tinley Moraine Genealogists, PO Box 521, Tinley Park, IL 60477-0521 or emailing TMG www.tmgenealogists.org or TMG email at tinleymoraine@yahoo.com

PACK 383 BOBCATS

Orland Park Cub Scout Pack 383 held its Bobcat Ceremony on January 8th. More than 20 first year Tigers and new scouts received their Bobcat pins and patches. Joe Senderi, of Orland Park, (left) adds the Bobcat pin to his son Joey's Cub Scout uniform as his son, Nicholas, and daughter, Katie, watch during Cub Scout Pack 383's Bobcat Ceremony. The pin is placed upside down on the scout's uniform and is righted when the scout performs a good deed.

Orland Park Chamber holds business after hour event

The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a Business-After-Hours Event sponsored by Susie's Trunk Show & Emporium on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at 9959 W. 143rd Street in Orland Park, Illinois 60462.

This evening of shopping for your Valentine is intended especially for men looking to find something unique for their special someone. A free pair of earrings will be given with every purchase of $25 or more. This event is open to current Orland Park Area Chamber members as well as those interested in chamber membership. Appetizers and beverages will be served.

Please call the Chamber at 708-349-2972 to reserve your spot at this evening of Valentine's shopping. For more information on this event or for more information on becoming a member of the Orland Park Area Chamber call 708-349-2972 or visit their website at www.orlandparkchamber.org.

Village of Orland Park Cashier's Office announces new hours and water payment options

The Village of Orland Park Cashier's Office is open during regular business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and now from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of the month for those who wish to pay their water bills in person. The Cashier's Office will no longer be open on Saturdays.

In addition to making payments in person, the Finance Department Cashier's Office offers several options for people to pay their water bills.

Pay by Mail.

Payments can be made via mail to the address provided on the payment stub. Please allow seven to ten business days for delivery and posting to your account.

Pay Online

Credit card payments can be made online using a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover or by using a debit card with the Visa/MasterCard logo. To register for online payments go to www.orland-park.il.us/billpay.

Pay by Automatic Water Bill Payment Program

Payments can be made automatically from a checking or savings account directly to your water billing account. The transfer will occur on the due date. An Automatic Water Bill Payment Authorization Form must be complete to enroll in this program. To register for the Automatic Water Bill Payment Program, visit the Village's website at www.orland-park.il.us or call Water Billing at (708) 403-6175. The Authorization Form will need to be printed and mailed or delivered to the Cashier's Office in the Village Hall.

Water Billing Payments

Pay by Drop Box

Payments can be made by dropping your payment in one of the following water bill drop boxes.

- Inside the Village Hall next to the Finance Department Cashier's Window
- In front of the Village Hall on the median strip before the circle drive
- At each of the Village's commuter parking stations located at 143rd, 153rd and 179th Streets
- At the Sportsplex in front of the circle drive

Electronic Bills

The Village offers residents the ability to receive their water bill electronically. Bills are emailed to residents on the same day paper bills are mailed. A link to the on-line bill payment section of the Village's website will be included in the email. To enroll in the program, please complete the Electronic Bill Enrollment Form on our website or call Water Billing at (708) 403-6175.

Change of Information

If you need to change any information on your water billing account, please complete the Water Billing Change of Information Form on the website or call (708) 403-6175.

Oak Forest Park District holds Valentine Dance

The Oak Forest Park District, 15601 S. Central Ave. is hosting a Valentine's Day Dance Party for all 4th thru 8th graders on Saturday February 13, 2010 from 7:00 – 9:30pm. The cost is $6 at the door with a school ID. Come groove to the DJ, jump in the moonwalk, enter the Wii dance competition, put your Valentine's crush in jail or just hang out with your friends and have a good time. Concessions will be available for purchase. Any questions please contact (708) 687-7270 ex119.

THE SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

Beethoven Violin Concerto

On Sun., Feb. 28th, at 4:00 pm, the Southwest Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of David L. Crane, presents Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D Major. The featured soloist will be Baird Dodge, Principal Second Violinist of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

In 2006, he premiered and recorded Carillon Sky, a chamber concerto written for him by Augusta Read Thomas, on the CSO's MusicNOW series with Oliver Knussen conducting, and then performed it with Orchestra 2001 in Philadelphia. The other piece to be presented that evening, is Polonaise from Eugene Onegin & Sleeping Beauty Suite by Tchaikovsky.

The concert is located at Trinity Christian College's Ozinga Auditorium, 6601 West College Drive, Palos Heights. Ticket prices are $5.00 for students, $15.00 to $19.00 for seniors, adults $19.00 to $24.00, children under 12 are free. To learn more about go on southwestsymphony.com or call 708-802-0686.

Bridgeview Library gives special attention

The library will be holding tax help for taxpayers with low to moderate income, with special attention to those ages 60 and older. This is done by appointment only. Dates will be February 8th from 10 -2 PM, March 1st 10-2 PM, March 15th from 10-2 PM and finally April 5th from 10-2PM. For a list of items to bring, please call (708)-458-2880 and ask for Margaret.

eBay. You're invited to attend a free lecture course covering the ins and outs of selling on eBay. Join us on Saturday, February 20th at 2:00PM to hear Vivienne Porter of C3 Solutions teach you everything you need to know about this famous internet auction web site. No registration is required.

For Children and Families:

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince movie Saturday, January 30th starting at 3:00 PM.

G-Force –movie Thursday, February 4th starting at 6:30 PM

Valentine's Party & Charlie Brown Valentine the movie. Saturday, February 13th from 2-4:00 PM.

UP movie Thursday, February 18th at 6:30 PM Enjoy making a craft item, enjoy some snacks and relax with a movie.

March 13th we welcome Children's Theatre of Western Springs and their play of "Miss Nelson is Missing" Saturday, March 13th at 2:00 PM This show is best for ages 10 and under. Children under 8 must be accompanied by and adult.

The Bridgeview Public Library has recently formed a group for families who homeschool. This group is open to the public and meets 1 time a month. February 18th, March 18th and April 15th. Starts at 7:00PM.

Any questions about the children's events please call (708) -458-2880 ext.106 and ask for Julie.

Haitian Relief benefit concert at Trinity

Trinity Christian College, 6601 W. College Drive, Palos Heights, Illinois

Haitian Relief Benefit Concert featuring the Haitian a cappella group Supremacy 4 Trinity groups will also be performing, including the Gospel Choir, Ontery, and Sisters in Unity. Friday, February 5, at 7 p.m. Ozinga Chapel

As a community, Trinity Christian College has come together, students, faculty, staff, and administration, to raise support for the people of Haiti. Trinity is inviting neighbors from the surrounding communities to join in this cause.

All proceeds will be distributed among four organizations.

1) Christian Reformed World Relief Committee (CRWRC)

2) Him Christian School, Palos Heights, IL – Students will make Hope Packs for Haiti, filled with food and supplies.

3) Mission of Hope Haiti

4) Vision of Hope Ministries

Tickets are $5 each and can be purchased at the door, online at http://haitianreliefbenefitconcert.eventbrite.com or www.trnty.edu or by calling the College switchboard at 708.597.3000. A free will offering will also be taken.

Hickory Hills Park promotes

Children will use their creative skill to create an entire tray full of cookies and mini cupcakes in our Sweet and Treats class. The class will include: aprons, a variety of frosting colors, a wide array of sprinkles and toppings to add to the fun. Each child will go home with enough goodies to feed the entire family. This class will be held Thursday, February 4th from 6:30 – 7:15 p.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center, 9100 S. 88th Ave. Ages: 3-12 years (children 3-5 years must be accompanied by a parent). Fee: $27 Resident; $32 Non-Resident.

It's a chocolate lover's dream class. In the Homemade Chocolate delights class you'll learn how to properly melt chocolate and make a variety of chocolate candies. Samples of all candies will be available to take home. This class will be held Tuesday, February 9th from 7:00 – 8:15 p.m. at Cynthia Neal Center, 8047 W. 91st Place. Ages: 12 years to Adult. Fee: $17 Resident; $19 Non-Resident.

Home Alone class is designed to teach children in grades first – sixth, the basics of safety in the home. Class will cover simple rules and procedures for responsible self –care, such as answering the phone, important phone numbers and what to do in case of fire or an emergency. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend with their child. This class is offered Monday, February 15th from 6:00 –9:00 p.m. Fee: $4 Resident; $5 Non-Resident.

Soccer Programs at Hickory Hills Park District

Monday Night Soccer will consist of 7 – 8 players per team. This will be a 5 vs. 5 competition (4 players and a goalie). Each team will play 7 games. Game times will be 7:00 or 8:00 p.m., February 1 – March 15. All players receive a t-shirt. Ages: 8 – 11 years. Fee: $25 Resident; $30 Non-Resident.

Wednesday Night Soccer will consist of 8 players per team. This will be a 6 vs. 6 competition (5 players and a goalie). Each team will play 7 games. Game times are 5:30 or 6:30 p.m., February 3 – March 24. All Players receive a t-shirt. Ages: 5 – 7 years. Fee: $27 Resident; $32 Non-Resident.

Oak Lawn Senior Happenings

BUS SERVICE

The Village of Oak Lawn is proud to announce the expansion of their free bus service available to seniors 60 years of age or older and those disabled 18 years of age or older. The service is now available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The bus will take the residentsanywhere in Oak Lawn, to Westfield Mall in Chicago Ridge and to the Nutrition Site in Hometown. Reservations are required 24 hours priorto the appointment and it is a one way or round trip service. An application must be completed and a pass will be issued. For further information you may call the Senior Bus at 499-7090 or stop by the Senior Center, 5330 West 95th Street for an application.

OIL PAINTING

The Oak Lawn Senior Center in cooperation with the Oak Lawn Park District will be conducting Oil Painting Classes. Every Monday for ten weeks from 9 a.m. to Noon residents will meet at the Oakview Center, 4625 West 110th Street. The cost is $30.00 to residents and $35.00 for non-residents. The new session will begin on February 22nd. For further information you may call the Senior Center at 499-0240.

SAFETY FOR SENIORS

On Monday, February 22nd at 10:00 a.m. Detective Tom Cronin of the Oak Lawn Police Department will be at the Senior Center for a very important presentation. He will discuss helpful safety tips for use in your home, out shopping, walking and even on the phone. Being aware and cautious means safety. Don't miss this informative presentation.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program. For further information you may call the Oak Lawn Senior Center at 499-0240 or stop by the Center at 5330 West 95 Street.

Novena Mass at St. Rita of Cascia

All are invited to the next monthly St. Rita of Cascia Novena Mass to be held Thursday, February 4, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, 7740 S. Western Avenue, Chicago, IL.

Confessions will take place at 6:00 p.m. Mass and novena prayers will begin at 7:00 p.m.

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Village View Wedding Page

Philip Andrew Evans and Diane Gilhooly were married in Grayslake, IL at the Byron Colby Barn on Nov 30, 2008. The bride was from Woodstock, IL and the groom was from Hereford, United Kingdom. The bridal party attendees were Susan Jung, maid of honor and Julie King, bridesmaid, Bruce Evans, best man and Kevin Jung, usher. Guests included, Diane Gilhooly's parents, Harry (Bud) and Catherine (Evelyn) Haymaker from Port Charlotte, FL, and the groom's parents Terrence and Margaret Evans, from Hereford, U.K. Included as guests are brothers and sisters, and additional family members who have traveled many miles to attend this happy moment. In all, there were approximately 100 guests, of family and friends joining in to celebrate the joyous occasion of a blessed event.

The Adventure

by Evelyn Haymaker

The bloom of love is on your cheek
Now your happiness is at a peak
You've found the center of your life
Yes, now you are to be his wife
A most important role you'll play
His needs to care for everyday
When he is sad will you understand?
Will you give him comfort and a helping hand?
Remember now, it's up to you
Enrich his day his whole life through

Diane

by Evelyn Haymaker

A tiny bundle of innocence and charm
I hold her in a niche in my arm
A wee little head, small hands and small feet
She gives the impression she's very petite
The latest model of joy we're to know
We all think she's great, because we love her so!

Local Michigan resident photographs historic Lake Michigan

Turner Publishing Company has a book in their Historic Photos series titled The History of Lake Michigan. This book captures the history of the lake in Michigan and factual information about the towns that grew up around the lake.

Lynda Iwardowski, the photographer and author of the book did a justice to the area with her camera. "This book is a great gift for any occasion regardless if you live in Michigan or not. From cargo transport during the Civil War to bustling harbor hamlets and booming cities, Lake Michigan has served the people through decades of cultural and commercial innovation while preserving its untamed splendor."

Guests from Muskegon couldn't believe the extent of the quality of the pictures, because of there were so vivid. The reality of the resemblance of their imagination from the past was brought to life through Lynda's photo. This book was not only a coffee table conversation piece, but a historic venture into the past.

Lynda Iwardowski is the travel editor of Traverse, Northern Michigan's Magazine, and My North.com. She has written more than a dozen published books, as well as hundreds of articles to regional and national magazines. Iwardowski lives in Traverse City, Michigan on the Lower Peninsula. The book is available at local retailers, amazon.com and TurnerPublishing.com

Glad to see your back

After a two year hiatus, the #1 New York Times Bestseller Tami Hoag is back.

Deeper Than the Dead, is a nail biting thriller.

It's a fast paced thriller written with a new twist where the story line is made more sophisticated and the setting is in 1985, before cell phones, DNA technology, and criminal profiling.

those who read Tami Hoag know that she is known for her romance and suspense novels. With this book she is detailed orientated to let the reader enjoy these details without allowing them to start to figure out the who did it thinking.

Tami puts her characters, (the friends, families and community) in close proximity to one another. This is more than just another thriller it keeps you turning each page faster and faster until you find that there's a calculating serial killer within the midst of the community who is intimately involved with everyone. It is about the murderer and the actual victims. It's more than just a murder thriller it's fantastic.

Tami Hoag is the #1 International bestselling author of thirty books. Hoag first hit the New York Times bestseller list with Night Sins and each book has been bestsellers.

Italian American Women Club

The Italian American Women's Club has open membership for Italian American Women. They meet on the second Tuesday of every month at St. Bernadette School 9311 South Francisco, Evergreen Park, IL. For additional information, contact Sister Mary Ventura, 708-857-2005.

The club's president is Francine Lazzara, Vice President, Sister Mary Ventura, Secretary, Catherine Boyle and Treasurer, Ginger Morgan.

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Please send reservations by February 25, 2010 to Jack Grandin, 7011 Sierra Court, Darien, IL 60561.
Make checks payable to Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP. For information, call Jack Grandin 630-852-0598.
For details on all of Scandinavian Park's 2010 Events, please visit www.vasaparkil.com.

Joyce Cruse

Queen of Peace teacher recognized as teacher of the year

Peace Senior, Teacher Honored by VFW Post 177 Queen of Peace social studies teacher Joyce Cruse was recognized as "Teacher of the Year" on Dec. 14 by the McDonald-Linn VFW Post 177. Cruse submitted five letters of recommendation and was nominated by Peace president/principal Dr. Kathleen Hanloo. "I felt honored and was completely surprised," said Cruse, of Woodridge, whose American Government: Law and Politics students are currently engaged in a project entitled, "How to Make the World a Better Place."

They have already baked desserts for 19 families who are staying at the Ronald McDonald House affiliated with Hope Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn, visited Rosary Hill Home, a retirement facility, to sing Christmas carols and play card and board games with the residents, and made and sold jewelry to benefit Bonaventure House, a residential facility sponsored by the Alexian Brothers AIDS Ministry.

"I have worked with high school students for 25 years, and I have always believed in the power of one person to make a difference," Cruse said. "We live in a great country and democracy is precious. We must recognize the importance of each student's voice and create opportunities to practice good and effective citizenship." Senior Emily Boyle (Chicago, 60655) also was recognized with a certificate Dec. 14 by the McDonald-Linn VFW Post 177 for her essay related to Voice of Democracy, a nation-wide essay and recording contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars addressing the question, "Does America Still Have Heroes?" "I found the question to be very intriguing because I knew that the answer was obviously yes – of course America still has heroes," Boyle said. "But I wanted to discuss the topic in a creative manner. I tried to address the idea of everyday heroes and their simplistic, yet vitally important deeds."

Evergreen Park Recreation Department announces programs

Guitar Classes, ages nine and up, starting Wednesdays, February 3rd Fee: $50.00 for 8 weeks.

Million Dollar Quartet Apollo theatre Thursday, Feb. 11, 2010 Fee: $60.00 includes ticket and transportation bus leaves 6:15 - show time 7:30 p.m.

Call the Recreation Department (708) 229-3373 to register for various classes.

Southtown Dahlia Club hold meeting

Southtown Dahlia club will feature a presentation on "Designing Flower Beds." Dan Bemis, an expert from Goldsmith Seed in St. Charles, IL, will show us many approaches for designing different size yards as well as the most effective use of color, size and variety for various situations. Join us for information, raffles and refreshments. Meeting, Sunday, February 28, 2010

Crestwood Civic Center
14025 S. Kostner
Crestwood, IL

Call the Crestwood Civic Center for the time of the meeting.

February is American Heart Month

Heart Disease is a Leading Cause of Disability

Cardiovascular disease is the nation's No. 1 killer and a major cause of disability. [1] As a nationwide provider of Social Security disability representation and Medicare services, Allsup is keenly aware of the significance of American Heart Month in February, and is pleased to join health professionals, nonprofit organizations, government agencies and community groups in raising awareness about the prevalence, severity and symptoms of heart disease.

Allsup routinely works with individuals who can no longer work because of coronary heart disease (including heart attack), stroke, high blood pressure and heart failure—the four most common types of cardiovascular disease, according to the American Heart Association.

About every 25 seconds, an American will experience a coronary event, and about every minute one person will die. Although not always fatal, coronary events often have a lasting affect on an individual's ability to return to work.

The Social Security Administration defines a cardiovascular impairment as any disorder that affects the proper functioning of the heart or the circulatory system (arteries, veins, capillaries and the lymphatic drainage). The disorder can be congenital or acquired.

A partial list of cardiovascular impairments that may be severe enough to prevent an individual from doing any gainful activity include:

·Chronic heart failure—the inability of the heart to pump enough oxygenated blood to body tissues;

·Ischemic heart disease—when one or more coronary arteries is narrowed or obstructed;

·Peripheral vascular disease—generally, any impairment that affects either the arteries (peripheral arterial disease) or the veins (venous insufficiency) in the extremities, particularly the lower extremities, or

·An arrhythmia—a change in the regular beat of the heart. The heart may seem to skip a beat or beat irregularly, very quickly (tachycardia), or very slowly (bradycardia).

A documented medical history of at least three months of observations along with evidence that, with few exceptions, the condition has been present, or is expected to be present, for a continuous period of at least 12 months, is usually necessary for a successful application.

The effects of heart disease can be life-changing, but you can take steps to reduce your risk by following CDC recommendations to eat a healthy diet low in trans fat, sugar, cholesterol and sodium, and getting 150 minutes of moderate intensity aerobic activity a week, along with muscle strengthening exercises for all major muscle groups two or more days a week.

Being able to recognize signs of heart attack and stroke also is valuable. The sooner a person gets medical attention, the better the outcome.

Heart attack warning signs include (provided by the CDC):

·Pain or discomfort in the jaw, neck or back.

·Feeling weak, lightheaded or faint.

·Chest pain or discomfort.

·Pain or discomfort in arms or shoulder.

·Shortness of breath.

Stroke warning signs include (provided by National Stroke Association):

·Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.

·Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.

·Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.

·Sudden trouble with walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.

·Sudden, severe headache with no known cause.

Take the time during American Heart Month to consider lifestyle changes that could improve your quality of life, reduce your risk of heart disease, and empower you to take action in case of a heart attack or stroke.

The Veterans Aid and Attendance Benefit

WHAT: Right at Home a private duty home care agency, wants to make sure our nation's Veterans are aware of important benefits for which they may qualify.

The Veterans Aid and Attendance Benefit is a benefit paid in addition to monthly pension. Benefits are available for Veterans and surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of another person to assist in bathing, dressing, meal preparation, medication monitoring or other various activities of daily living. This benefit is available to individuals who reside in assisted living communities, personal care homes, skilled nursing facilities and those receiving personal in-home care.

WHO: Any War Veteran with 90 days of active duty with at least one day during active War time (WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Gulf). A surviving spouse of a War Veteran may be eligible if he/she remained married to the Veteran until his/her time of death and has not remarried. The individual must also meet medical, service and financial qualifications.

WHY: "Right at Home of Orland Park is committed to meeting the needs of those we serve to improve their quality of life. As part of our commitment, we want to make Veterans and their families aware of this little known benefit available that can help them pay for care services," said Allison Aidinovich, owner of the Orland Park Right at Home. "A veteran may be eligible for up to $19,728 a year, a Veteran with a dependent spouse may be eligible for up to $23,388 per year, a surviving spouse of a veteran may be eligible for up to $12,672 a year and two veterans married to each other may be eligible for up to $30,480 a year. Right at Home wants to connect Veterans with the people that can help Veterans qualify for these benefits.

WHEN: If you want to learn more about the Aid & Attendance Benefit, call Right at Home at 708-873-9007 or email rahorlandpark@att.net They can get you in touch with the appropriate claims agent to help you determine your eligibility and guide you through the process to help expedite your claim.

About Right at Home of Orland Park

Operating since 2007, Right at Home of Orland Park has been serving the needs of the south suburbs with in-home care and assistance for seniors and disabled adults. Owned by Dave and Allison Aidinovich.

For more information about us or to learn more about the free in-home assessment, visit www.orlandpark.rightathome.net or call 708-873-9007.

About Right at Home®

Right at Home® offers in-home care and personal care assistance to seniors and disabled adults who want to continue to live independently. Right at Home directly employs all caregiving staff, each of whom are thoroughly screened, trained, bonded and insured prior to their entering a client's home. All ongoing care is monitored and supervised by local independent Right at Home franchisees. Right at Home's national office is based in Omaha, Neb. with more than 180 franchise offices throughout the United States. For more information at www.rightathome.net or caregiving blog, visit http://www.rightathome.net/seniorhomecare.

Photo by Liz Lauren

Private Lives

by Alan Bresloff

There is simply nothing like viewing a work by Noel Coward. His use of the English language and his characters are for an audience, the purest work of escapism; we forget what ails us and just let the laughter pour out. In the current production of Noel Coward's "Private Lives" directed flawlessly by Gary Griffin on the main stage of Chicago Shakespeare Theater on Navy Pier, we are treated to the best of story tellers, a creative director and a sparkling cast . One must remember that this work was written in 1930 and Coward's works were written to take our minds away from the events of the world during this time.

"Private Lives" is the story of a couple, Elyot (Robert Sella plays this role as if he were indeed Coward himself) and Amanda (the delightful Tracy Michelle Arnold) who have been divorced for five years after a three year marriage that was a disaster. Now they have each re-wed and lo and behold they are honeymooning at the same resort, and even sharing a terrace. As their paths meet, the hate they had for each other becomes a reborn passion and they leave their new partners to rekindle what they have been missing for these five years. As they embark on their new romance, what appears on the outside to be perfection remixed becomes just what they had before. Meanwhile, their new partners, Sybil (perfectly played by Chaon Cross) and Victor (deftly handled by Tim Campbell) decide to work together to find their spouses and see where this is headed.

This being a light English comedy; one can easily figure out how it will end, but the trip to the finish is a delightful evening of laughs and out and out guffaws. Coward's words and some delightful music ("Let's Fall In Love") take this seventy year old play into modern day with no revision. While all four of the actors do a superb job of making these characters real, the weight of the storyline falls hard on Mr. Sella and Ms Arnold, who are up to the task. Their energy in the second act love-hate-fight scene is powerful stuff (fight direction handled by Chuck Coyl) considering audience members are only a yard or so away from the action. Griffin couldn't have put a better cast on this stage. In fact, even the fifth member of the cast, a small role (played skillfully by Wendy Robie) of Louise the maid is the cherry that tops off the sundae.

"Private Lives" will continue at CST at Navy Pier through March 7th with performances as follows: Tuesday: (February only) 7:30 p.m. Wednesday : February 3rd, 10th and 17th and March 3rd at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. February 24th no evening performance. Thursday: All of February and March 4th 7:30 p.m.

Friday: All of February (except the 5th) and March 5th 7:30 p.m. February 5th 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: February all and March 6th 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Sunday: All February and March 7th 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Tickets range from $55-$75 and are available at the box office, by phone at 312-595-5600 or online at www.chicagoshakes.com

Victory Gardens to name newly build Studio Theatre The Richard Christiansen Theatre

Special celebration on March 1 to honor former Chicago Tribune chief theater critic, launch Victory Gardens' $1 million Campaign for Growth

Victory Gardens Theater, Chicago's #1 producer of new plays, announced it will name its new studio theater upstairs at the Victory Gardens Biograph the Richard Christiansen Theater, in honor of the Chicago Tribune chief critic emeritus and longtime champion of Chicago's live theater scene.

"Richard Christiansen, a dear friend and colleague, is a true advocate for Chicago's Off-Loop theater scene, from its advent in the mid-1970s, throughout his career, and still today," said Victory Gardens Artistic Director Dennis Zacek. "In particular, Richard understands and respects the very fragile nature of Victory Gardens' singular devotion to developing new plays.

Without his encouragement, advice, and yes, constructive criticism, I am certain Victory Gardens would not be the American Center for New Plays it is today. And I dare say we would not be ensconced in our beautiful new home, the Victory Gardens Biograph Theater. So it's fitting that our beautiful jewel box of a new studio theater be named in honor of Richard, the rare human being who still has the capacity to find wonder and amazement each time the curtain is drawn."

On Monday, March 1, Victory Gardens will host a special celebration to honor Christiansen, and officially name its new, 109-seat second floor studio theater the "Richard Christiansen Theater." The March 1 event also launches Victory Gardens Theater's new, $1 million dollar "Campaign for Growth."

Lead support for the Richard Christiansen Theater is generously provided by Polk Bros Foundation. Co-chairs of the Richard Christiansen Theater tribute are his dear friends Margie Korshak and Jane Nicholl Sahlins. Co-chairs of the Campaign for Growth are Fred Bates and Penny Brown.

Cocktails start at 5 pm at the Victory Gardens Biograph Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Avenue, Chicago, followed at 6 pm by a special salute to Christiansen in his new namesake theater. Invited guests represent a who's who from Chicago's theater scene, past and present. Contact the Victory Gardens development office, 773.549.5788 x 2146, for information on how to contribute in honor of Richard Christiansen, or visit victorygardens.org/campaignforgrowth for more details.

As part of the Campaign for Growth, a special Artists' Tribute Fund is being created specifically for artists to honor Christiansen's tireless support of Chicago theater. Participants in the Artists' Tribute Fund will be announced shortly, and are pledging to match fellow artists' donations dollar for dollar.

"We are thrilled and honored that Richard accepted this honor, and can't imagine a more fitting tribute than naming the new studio theater the Richard Christiansen Theater. Richard's role in the rise and success of the Chicago theater community is unparalleled. We are all indebted to him, and it gives us great pleasure to provide him with a 'theater of his own'," said Jan Kallish, Executive Director, Victory Gardens Theater.

Kallish added, "The naming of the Richard Christiansen Theater is the centerpiece of our Campaign for Growth, enabling us to continue and expand our commitment to new work, diverse audiences, access, and education. Programmatic initiatives such as our hugely successful Ignition Festival and Fresh Squeezed will continue to flourish on both stages through the support of our patrons, donors and sponsors."

Margie Korshak, co-chair of the Richard Christiansen Theater tribute, added, "No one has done more for Chicago Theater and no one deserves to have a theater named after him than Richard Christiansen." Fellow co-chair Jane Nicholl Sahlins concurred. "Naming this theater for Richard is a recognition of his unique and enduring contribution to the most vibrant theatre scene on the planet."

Just in Time for Valentine's Day

John Mueller's Winter Dance Party comes to The Center for Performing Arts at Governors State University to perform classic 1950s pop hits Saturday, Feb.13 at 8 p.m.

Just in time for Valentine's Day, this live concert event presents spot-on performances of the famous songs that Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper performed live. "As flawless as a chord from a Fender Strato-caster.

Single tickets are $22 - $42. For single tickets and subscription information call The Center's Box Office staff at (708) 235-2222 www.centertickets.net.

Buy one, get one free tickets are available at the box office two hours prior to curtain for one hour only, based upon availability.

The Center is located at (Governors Highway and University Parkway), off I-57 at Sauk Trail. Parking is free.

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50th Year Reunion needs your help

If anyone knows the where abouts of the following people, it would complete the list of Graduates for our 50th Year reunion of the 1960 Class from Loretto Englewood H.S.
Eileen Heilbronner (Malzone)
Margie Johnston (Hildebrand)
Mary Ann Lain (Hackler)
Marilyn Murray (Cox)
Barbara Mutter (Young)
Maria del Carmen Rangel (Zinzer)
Kathleen Reynolds (Macaitis)
Judith Sargent (Breen)
Yvonne Sarvey
Carmen Torres
Donna Vanek (Konecki)
The Reunion is May 2, 2010 in Wheaton, IL.
Please contact, Annette Stella Dixon 312-624-8996

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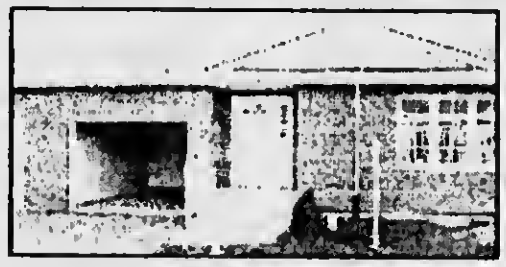

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CLASSIC REALTY

Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House: One Hundred Years of Modern Living

How the icon of modern architecture has remained modern one hundred years later

Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House, the icon of modern architecture, is celebrating one hundred years in 2010. Robie House is renowned for its amazing contemporary spaces, sweeping horizontal lines, dramatic overhangs, built-in furnishings, stretches of art glass windows and open floor plan. Still its clean, dynamic lines, exploitation of steel framing, and extensive use of art glass to dissolve the home's walls foreshadow many elements of modernism.

The residence sparked a revolution in residential architecture whose influence still reverberates today. Designated by the American Institute of Architects as one of the 10 most significant structures of the 20th century, this American treasure is celebrated as one of Chicago's most important works of art. In fact, Robie House is the only structure to which the Wright returned, saving the home from demolition, twice.

"Robie House created at the domestic level something new to the eyes of 1909 Chicago, supplanting the symmetrical classicism of the day by an asymmetrical monumentality. In the structurally expressive use of piers, wall planes, and stripes of windows all clustered about a central chimney, one senses an unusual coherence to planning. Visually this produced a bold interplay of forms with strong horizontals at different levels, originating in but leading away from the dominate vertical."

Frank Lloyd Wright designed the Robie House as an example of a new way of American living—in contrast to the revival styles of architecture that had become popular in the United States. Incorporated within this structure were the latest technological innovations, such as elaborate electrical lighting, intercom systems, a single-valve watering scheme, magnesite flooring and a central vacuum unit. Yet, what makes the home most modern was the development of the flexible living spaces, building materials such as steel and Wright's employment of the Machine Age to create Arts and Craft designs.

Wright sought new forms and open space to create a unique American style of architecture. His buildings were a departure from the antiquated European designs. They expressed democratic ideas and a spiritual connection with the land. However, with the Robie House, Wright's artistic language achieved a modern aesthetic with recessed and projected massing, composed largely of brick, stone, concrete and glass, and these elements further enhanced the modern appeal by employing the exterior materials so prevalently throughout the interior decor.

Frank Lloyd Wright's inspiration for an indigenous architecture with roots exemplified by the American Midwest, and best represented with the Robie House, ironically first inspired a new generation of European architects. In 1911 Wright's new American architecture was influential to European design and European architects and artists gleaned from Wright's concept the International Style still common in commercial and residential modernist design. Torch bearers of the International style include J.J.P. Oud and Mies van der Rohe, the latter's work is very prevalent in Chicago. Wright's Prairie style, best exemplified by the Robie House, has also been cited as a precursor to the ranch style and split-level homes rife in the mid- to late twentieth century.

Robie House, more than any other structure, demonstrated Wright's genius and brought him acclaim from both the United States and abroad. In its precision-like arrangement, the home continues to be recognized as one of the most important buildings of the 20th century, a building that propelled the modernist movement in architecture. Wright so admired the building, he commented, "I think the house should be preserved as a little club of some kind, or perhaps as a museum of architecture."

About the Robie House Centennial Celebration

The Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust will introduce an expanded selection of guest experiences to Wright's Robie House for the Centennial Celebration commencing in January 2010. The new experiences are open to the public and will encourage a more personal connection with the museum, allowing guests options to direct their interaction with the Robie House, providing expanded access, and offering opportunities for deeper engagement with Wright's icon of modern design. The new programs will operate throughout 2010 and include family workshops, in-depth examinations of the museum and the Preservation Trust collection, social events, themed guided tours and self-guided tours. Visit GoWright.org for a complete listing of Robie House programs and tickets to the expanded offerings as dates and times will vary for tours, programs and events.

Chicago-natives, Navy Sailors JC Hunt and Charles Hubbard

The USS NIMITZ is currently supporting ongoing operations in Afghanistan and Iraq and is deployed in the Gulf of Oman.

We have two outstanding Chicago native Sailors deployed onboard the USS NIMITZ.

Navy Seaman JC Hunt is a Postal Clerk, responsible for handling all incoming and outgoing mail for the Sailors aboard the ship. His wife Kershanna and parents JC Hunt III and Rhodesia Elliot, reside in Chicago.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Charles Hubbard is an Aviation Maintenance Administrationmen (AZ), responsible for a variety of clerical, administrative and managerial duties necessary to keep aircraft maintenance activities running efficiently. His parents Rodrick and Cynthia Walls reside in Chicago.

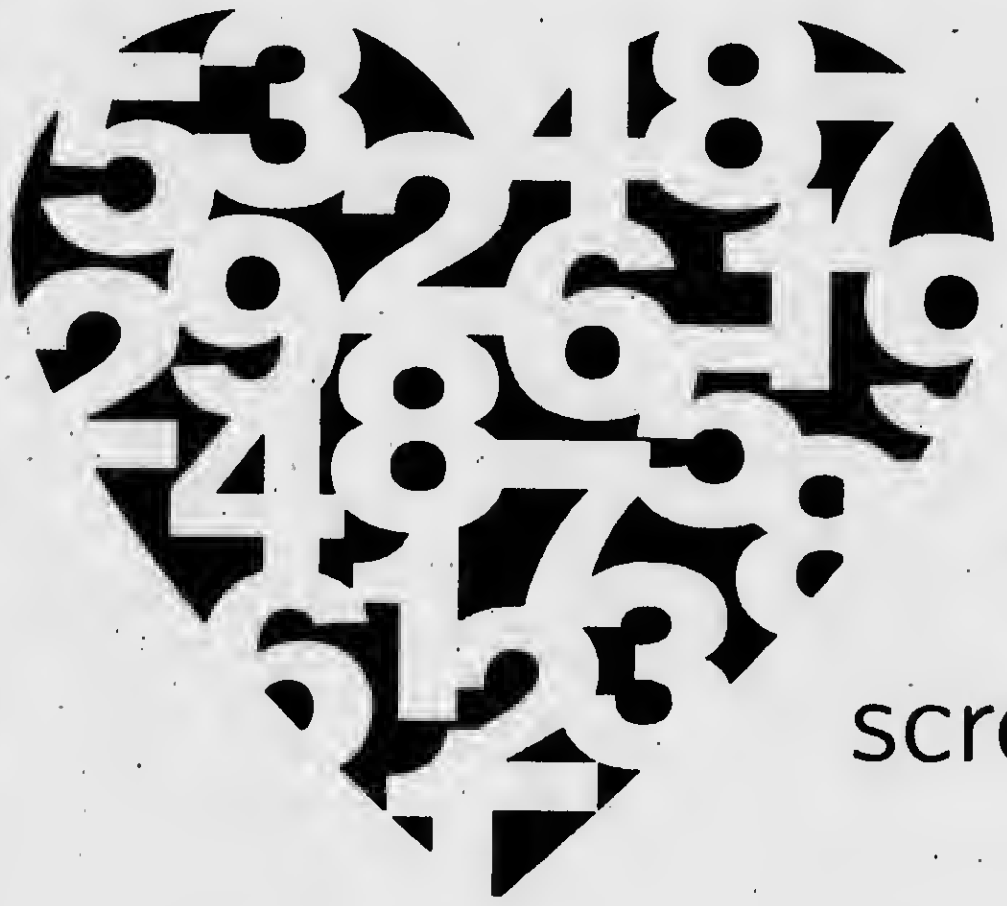
We would like to offer you a unique opportunity to speak with either of these Sailors via telephone from the USS NIMITZ at sea. The Sailors can place the call to you, from sea, at no charge to you.

In addition to speaking with the Sailors, family members of the Sailors are willing to participate as well.

If interested, please contact me to assist in the coordination of your interview.

MC2 Devin Thorpe
Navy Office of Community Outreach
1901 1874-5808

Southland: Know your NUMBERS



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FREE heart-health screenings in February:

						6 BLUE ISLAND 10a - 1p MetroSouth Medical Center, Main Lobby 12935 S. Gregory St.
		9 BLUE ISLAND 9a - 1p Blue Island Park District Memorial Park 2804 S. Highland Ave.		11 SOUTH HOLLAND 9a - 11a, 4p - 7p MetroSouth Health Center at South Holland 401 East 162nd St. Ste. 202		
		16 MORGAN PARK 9a - 11a, 4p - 7p MetroSouth Health Center at Morgan Park 1701 W. Monterey Ave. Chicago			**KICK-OFF BASH!** Join WCIU's Jeanne Sparrow and NBC5's Andy Avalos on **Saturday, February 6** as they kick off the Know Your Numbers by Heart campaign and reveal their own numbers at MetroSouth!	
		23 ALSIP 9a - 11a, 4p - 7p MetroSouth Health Center at Alsip 12246 S. Pulaski Rd.	24 BLUE ISLAND 9a - 11a, 4p - 7p MetroSouth Medical Center, Main Lobby 12935 S. Gregory St.			

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Far South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Forest / Orland Park / Tinley Park

Volume 8 Number 3

February 2, 2010

Orland Park Police Department Community Alert

The Orland Park Police Department has issued a community alert to make residents and visitors to Orland Park aware of recent criminal activity.

"We've received a number of reports of vehicles being broken into," said Orland Park Police Chief Tim McCarthy. Both commercial and residential areas of the village have shown an increase in motor vehicle burglaries.

"The Police Department has compiled a list of simple reminders to help the public prevent vandalism to their vehicles," said Lieutenant John Keating of the department's Investigations Division. "The most obvious reminder is to lock the doors on your vehicle. Locked doors are the first deterrent to vehicle break-ins," he added.

"Don't leave purses or bags that look like purses where potential thieves can see them in a vehicle," the chief warned. "All of our tips are common sense but we often times forget that we need to take that extra step to prevent someone from stealing our personal property," McCarthy added.

The Police Department's Investigations Division warns that car burglars will watch the parking areas of restaurants, fitness and entertainment centers, watching for people who place items in the trunks of their cars before entering the establishments.

"Once the thieves see someone place valuables in their trunk, they wait for them to enter the building, break the window and use the automatic trunk opener inside of the car to access the trunk," McCarthy explained. "This is all done within a matter of seconds and the vehicle owners don't know what's happened until they later return to their cars," the chief added.

Regarding Orland Park resident's garages, Keating stated, "when residents leave their garage doors open, they not only give thieves access to their bikes, tools and other garage items, more often than not, they're giving them access to their house because many families leave their inside garage service doors unlocked. This is a very preventable crime. Close your garage doors."

Police officials ask that residents pay attention to what's happening in their neighborhoods. "If your neighbor's garage door is open, call them on the phone or go ring the bell to let them know," McCarthy said. "Or, you can call the Police Department and we'll either try to close the door or contact the family to let them know," he added.

Residents are encouraged to pay attention to vehicles in their subdivisions, knowing which of their neighbors travel during the winter.

"Neighbors helping neighbors is the best way to deter crime in residential areas, both single and multi-family," McCarthy said. "And, using common sense with valuables in your vehicle in public areas will prevent unwanted thefts. Residents who witness suspicious activity are encouraged to contact the Orland Park Police Department at 708/349-4111 or if it's an emergency by dialing 9-1-1.

Business Unwrapped will be Building a Business Plan and will take place on February 12 at the Orland Park Public Library from 11:45 am till 1:00 pm. Participants are encouraged to bring their lunch and learn during this ntealtime event. For more information call 708-349-2972.

Cook County awards grant money

Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy is pleased to announce the award of Justice Assistance Grant funds to Cook County in the amount of $417,030.00. Cook County will share these funds with six municipalities in the 6th District. The communities of Bridgeview, Calumet City, Chicago Ridge, Ford Heights, Oak Lawn and Orland Park are to receive $69,505.00 each for a total of $417,030.00. The U.S. Department of Justice/Office of Justice Programs has provided these funds to Cook County to be used in local public safety programs for law enforcement and crime prevention including anti-gang activities.

Over the past four years the Cook County Board has allocated $766,396.00 to these six municipalities to improve the criminal justice system with emphasis on violent crime and serious offenders to create safer communities.

The Justice Assistance Grant Program was created by Congress to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime. It is based on local needs and conditions to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed most.

For more information call the Office of Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy at (708) 389-2125.

Information from the City of Oak Forest E Brief

The general primary election will take place on Tuesday, February 2. Polls open at 6 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. Unlike early voting, when voters could cast their ballot at any early voting site, each voter must vote in their home precinct on Tuesday. Voters can find their polling place and registration status by using the Voter Information Tool on cookcountyclerk.com.

Register for the Health 5K on Saturday, March 13

Registration is now open for the Health 5K, sponsored by National City, on Saturday, March 13 at 9 a.m. in Midlothian Meadows. The first 200 registrants will receive a T-shirt and goody bag. Register online or mail in a registration form. Learn more about the 1st Annual Oak Forest Health.

Rotary Club hosts free pancake breakfast and blood drive on February 14

Open your heart on Valentine's Day by attending the Rotary Club of Oak Forest's 16th Annual Pancake Breakfast and Blood Drive from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Oak Forest High School. Donate blood in February at any Heartland Blood Center or blood drive and be automatically entered into a raffle to win a $100 gas card. Learn more now.

Want to appeal your 2009 property taxes? If you have questions about appealing your 2009 property taxes, contact Oak Forest Taxpayer Advocate Guy Gattone at 708-687-4050, ext. 1031. The Cook County Board of Review is considering Bremen Township appeals through February 22. Tax appeal forms are available in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 15440 S. Central Avenue.

Winter parking reminder

As winter weather gets into high gear, please keep in mind that all cars must be removed from the street during and for 12 hours after a snowfall of two inches or more. Also, please do not push the snow from your driveways into the streets as this can lead to potential safety hazards.

Can Oak Forest "Count" on You?

In March, a census packet will be mailed to your residence. Please take 10 minutes to answer the 10 questions and return the form to the government. If the government does not receive a form from you, a U.S. Census worker may visit your house to gather the information and/or verify your address. Please be cooperative but cautious. Ask to see the census worker's identification and badge before answering any questions.

Question of the Week

I used to receive e-mail updates from Alderman Chuck Toland. I haven't received any in awhile. Can you tell me why?

Alderman Toland lost his e-mail address list and is trying to rebuild it. If you or any other resident would like to be added to the list, please send Alderman Toland your name and e-mail address to ctoland@oak-forest.org.

To submit a question for consideration, please send an e-mail to emaher@oak-forest.org and type Question of the Week in the subject line.

E-mail address: vvnew @sbcglobal.net

South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Volume 11 Number 3

February 2, 2010

Cook County grant funds awarded to various communities

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For more information call the Office of Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy at (708) 389-2125.

Out of Work? The U.S. Census Bureau is Hiring Nationwide

The national unemployment rate is hovering around 10 percent, but the good news is that the upcoming 2010 Census will create hundreds of thousands of temporary, part-time jobs across the United States. The Better Business Bureau offers the following advice on what it takes to work for the Census and tips on how to land a job.

Every ten years, the U.S. government is required to count every man, woman, and child in the country. The 2010 Census is a massive undertaking that requires the work of more than one million individuals. This should come as great news to job hunters who are looking for ways to pull in a paycheck, even if from part-time and temporary job.

"Many families are out of work and struggling to make ends meet. The jobs that are being created to assist with the 2010 Census could not come at a better time," said Steve J. Bernas, president & CEO of the Better Business Bureau serving Chicago and Northern Illinois . "A part-time job with the Census can help pay bills while still leaving the job hunter time to look for permanent employment."

Job hunters can apply for jobs with the Census Bureau now, however, most hiring will take place during the spring of 2010. Census takers usually work in their own communities, going door-to-door, conducting brief interviews with households that did not return their questionnaire. Census takers work approximately 20 to 40 hours per week, primarily in the evenings and on weekends and are paid weekly.

An applicant's chances of getting a job with the Census depend on many factors, such as the availability of work in his or her community, test score results, number of hours he or she is available for census work and veterans' preference. Also being able to speak a second language—even a rare language—fluently is a sought-after trait

The BBB and the U.S. Census Bureau recommend that interested individuals take the following steps to apply for a job with the 2010 Census:

·Review the Census Bureau's Jobs Web site – www.2010censusjobs.gov - to see if you may qualify.

·Call 1-866-861-2010 to learn about available jobs and contact your local Census Bureau office to schedule an appointment to take the basic skills test. While you can't necessarily study to take the test, you can see a sample test online to practice and prepare for the types of questions asked.

·Fill out the appropriate application and take it with you on the day of your testing. You'll also want to bring your proper identification and I-9 Form when you take the test.

·Follow up on your test results and the status of your application with your local Census office by contacting them directly.

For more information on the 2010 Census, visit www.2010census.gov. Job hunters can find more advice on landing a new job at www.bbb.org

Worth Historical Museum is hosting a lecture on the Calumet Beginnings

The Worth Historical Museum is hosting a lecture by author and Professor Kenneth J. Schoon on the origins of the Calumet Beginnings: Early Regional History from the ground up. The lecture will include a discussion and colorful map and historical photograph display to illustrate how our area came to be. Monday, February 15 7pm at the Worth Museum, 11500 s Beloit. The museum is located in the Terrace Centre, 3 blocks West of Harlem Ave. Please call 708 -448 7080 x 107 to reserve your spot. Reservations are not required but are encouraged. Copies of his books will be available for purchase as well as for signing.

Take a trip with the Worth Historical Museum to see the Deep Tunnel. The trip is Friday, April 3rd, but registration is required by February 26th. Tour the Stickney and Hodgkins plant to see the deep tunnel system and treatment plants. For registration information, please call 708-448 7080 x 107.

Currently on display at the Worth Historical Museum is information relating to the origins of the water system in Worth. Did you have a Percy Cump system in your home? Come and learn about the trials and tribulations of bringing Lake Michigan Water to the Village of Worth. The museum is open Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm and upon request. Please call 708-448 7080 for information.

Are you wondering where all that Cook County tax money goes

Join the Palos Orland Area League of Women voters for an update on Cook County by our very capable Cook County Study Committee.

The presentation, "Who Does What in Cook County" will give us information about who is getting our tax funds and what the money is buying.

Palos Heights Library, 12501 South 71st Avenue in Palos Heights

Coffee served at 9:00 AM (Bring your own cup please) Meeting starts promptly at 9:30 AM

Everyone is invited to attend the meeting. It is not necessary to be a League member.

Statement of OFA- State of the Union Address

Dave Seman, State Director of Organizing for America (OFA)-Illinois released the following statement in response to President Barack Obama's first State of the Union address:

"President Obama outlined a clear path forward for America that supports the needs of Main Street in the short-term, while setting our families and communities up for sustained and long-term success. His proposals for strengthening the middle-class and those seeking to lift themselves into the middle class recognize that the best way to bring our economy back from the brink of Depression and to ensure future prosperity is to invest in the concerns that impact both our living rooms and our boardrooms.

"And while the President's remarks this leave no doubt that we continue to live in difficult economic times that the road ahead will not be easy his initiatives show great promise for addressing education, energy, health care, and America's standing in an increasingly global marketplace.

"In unveiling his vision for renewing and reviving our nation, the President extended his hand in the same bipartisan spirit that has characterized his Adminis-tration to date. It is our hopeand the hope of OFA supporters across this state and this countrythat America's leaders will rise to the challenge."

E-mail address: vvnew@sbcglobal.net

B-MAC EDITION

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 Number 3

February 2, 2010

Calumet Township Community Center joins the fight against Prostate Screening

Hosts Free Prostate Screening for Residents

All male Calumet Township residents, 40 and older, will have the opportunity to participate in a prostate cancer screening on February 3rd, 2010. The free screening will take place at Calumet Township Community Center, 12633 So. Ashland Ave., Calumet Park, IL from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The testing consists of a blood sample and results will be given within two weeks. NO Medical insurance needed!

Beginning at age 40, it is important to undergo screening for prostate cancer, the leading cancer in men. A man faces a 1 in 6 risk of developing prostate cancer and the risk increases with age, with two-thirds of diagnoses occurring after the age of 65. Prostate cancer gen-erally shows no symptoms in its' earliest stages, so screening at the appropriate time is important.

A man over the age of 40 should be tested every year for prostate cancer and should undergo two different prostate exams each year, the Prostate Specific Antigen blood test (PSA) and a digital rectal exam. When symptoms do exist, they are usually in the form of interrupted urine flow, pain in the pelvic area or lower back, erectile dysfunction and a burning sensation while urinating. To make an appointment, call (708) 388-6606.

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For more information call the Office of Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy at (708) 389-2125.

Moraine Valley named 2009 Tree Campus USA

The Arbor Day Foundation has honored Moraine Valley Community College as a 2009 Tree Campus USA college for its dedication to campus forestry management and environmental stewardship.

Moraine Valley is the third college or university in Illinois and the first community college in the state to be named a Tree Campus USA college.

"The Tree Campus USA program will have a long-lasting impact at Moraine Valley as it engages college students and local citizens to plant trees and create healthier communities for people to enjoy for decades to come," said John Rosenow, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "The college will benefit from exceptional tree-care practices on campus as it works with tree-care professionals in the community to improve the tree canopy in Palos Hills."

Tree Campus USA is a national program launched in 2008, when 29 colleges were inaugurated, by the Arbor Day Foundation. The program honors colleges, universities and leaders of the campus and surrounding communities for promoting healthy urban forest management while engaging the campus community in environmental stewardship. Tree Campus USA is supported by a grant from Toyota.

Last year Linley White, Moraine Valley dean of Workforce Development and Community Services, introduced to the college's Sustainability Team the idea of applying for this honor. He, along with the tireless help of student intern Rosa Perez, of Alsip, worked on the application.

"The application process was a lot of work and a great learning experience for Rosa. She did a wonderful job," White said. "Becoming a Tree Campus is really part of the Sustainability Team's efforts and fits well into the college leadership's vision to be more sustainable. Tree Campus is a new thing. Being only the third college in Illinois to have this honor shows we're a leader in the program."

All about historical Calumet beginnings

The Worth Historical Museum is hosting a lecture by anthor and Professor Kenneth J. Schoon on the origins of the Calumet Beginnings: Early Regional History from the ground up. The leeture will include a discussion and colorful map and historical photograph display to illustrate how our area came to be. Monday, February 15 7pm at the Worth Museum, 11500 s Beloit. The museum is located in the Terrace Centre, 3 blocks West of Harlem Ave. Please call 708 448 7080 x 107 to reserve your spot. Reservations are not required but are encouraged. Copies of his books will be available for purchase as well as for signing.

Photo Caption: Pictured top row (left to right): Nicole Frederick, Allison Kirwan, Heather Kierzek, Anna Dron, Michaele Strautch and Paige Jeffrey.
Middle row: Kelly Gierman, Kelly Kosiewicz, Julia Amador, Marcella Perez and Erica Vrkljan. Bottom row: Sara Seweryn, Sara Majewski, Emily Boyle and Diana Rodriguez. Not pictured: Natalie Watson.

Peace Announces Illinois State Scholars

Queen of Peace is proud to announce that 16 seniors have been named as 2010 Illinois State Scholars by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission. The award is based on a student's performance on the ACT, SAT or Prairie State Achievement Exam and their class rank at the end of their junior year. Illinois State Scholars rank in the top 10 percent of high school seniors from 752 schools across the state.

Queen of Peace's 2010 Illinois State Scholars are Julia Amador (Hickory Hills), Emily Boyle (Chicago, 60655), Anna Dron (Summit), Nicole Frederick (Oak Lawn), Kelly Gierman (Blue Island), Paige Jeffrey (Hometown), Heather Kierzek (Oak Lawn), Allison Kirwan (Burbank), Kelly Kosiewicz (Chicago, 60655), Sara Majewski (Oak Lawn), Marcella Perez (Burbank), Diana Rodriguez (Chicago, 60629), Sara Seweryn (Chicago, 60638), Michaele Strauch (Hickory Hills), Erica Vrkljan (Palos Hills) and Natalie Watson (Chicago, 60638).

"These students are among the best and the brightest in the state," said president/principal Kathleen Hanlon, Ph.D. "Queen of Peace is extremely proud of their commitment

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VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Lawn / Burbank / Hickory Hills / Evergreen Park

Volume 36 Number 16

February 16, 2010

Oak Lawn presents update on Quiet Zone

by Matt Mayer

Village manager Larry Deetjen presented an update at the Feb 2 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting regarding the railroad quiet zone along the tracks between Duffy Avenue in Hometown and Central Avenue in Oak Lawn. The quiet zone was scheduled to go into effect on Feb. 17.

The village however recently received a response from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), which halted the project. Village officials learned on Feb. 4 that the FRD had some issues with the village's quiet zone application. In a quiet zone trains are only allowed to sound their horns in case of emergency.

"There is an interpretation difference," Deetjen said. The FRA disagrees with the village's assessment of the quiet zone, particularly the median height on Cicero Avenue. The Illinois Department of Transportation specifies that a median must not be more than 6 inches from the top of the roadway. The resurfacing of Cicero Avenue has reduced the required height in some spots. The drawings submitted to the FRA showed that the median was rebuilt to specifications. "Oak Lawn meets the requirements for a quiet zone and we will have a quiet zone," Deetjen said

Other highlights: The village board approved an ordinance authorizing the execution of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network Agreement as well as an ordinance for a special use for office space on the first floor of an R-3 zone at 4219 W. 95th Street. A request to hold a 5K Walk/Run to benefit Hope Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House on June 6 beginning at 8:00 a.m. was also approved.

Village of Evergreen Park enforces snow route ordinance

As the snow continues to accumulate it is important that our residents are aware of the following ordinance in regards to snow route designation. It is also important that we show patience with the snow removal process. Our street department is working as quickly and as safely as possible. Please be sure to use caution while shoveling and to dress properly for the weather conditions. Please check on elderly neighbors and relatives to make sure they are safe and warm. Do not block fire hydrants when parking. Do not leave pets out for an extended time.

Sec. 13-209 Snow routes designated.

(a) At any time during which an accumulation of two inches of snowfall occurs within a twenty-four hour period in the village then all vehicles in such village shall be required to comply with the following plan:

(1) All vehicles shall be parked on the even side of the street on even days and on the odd side of the street on odd days.

(2) For the purpose of definition of this section, even and odd sides of street shall pertain to even and odd house numbers.

(3) For the purpose of definition of this section, the term "day" shall mean that day during which the accumulation takes place by 7:00 a.m.

(b) In addition to the foregoing there shall be established snow routes within the village as follows: At any time during which an accumulation of two inches of snowfall or more within a twenty-four-hour period as above defined occurs, it shall be unlawful for any person to stopm, stand, park or leave unattended a vehicle on the streets designated by the village board, which streets are hereby designated as "snow routes." (Code 1965, 20-70)

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce announces winners of 2009 Business Awards

On Tuesday, February 9, the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce recognized the winners of its 2009 Business Awards during its monthly membership luncheon held at Francesca's on 95th. The following individuals and businesses were honored:

Adam Woodworth, on behalf of the newly-opened Children's Museum in Oak Lawn , was honored as Outstanding Chamber Member & Business Person. Adam has served on the Chamber Board of Directors since 2007 and as Executive Director of the Children's Museum since 2006. Adam, for his efforts on behalf of the Museum, demonstrates a commitment to the improvement of the Oak Lawn business community and the betterment of the Village. He was critical in the opening of the Museum at its new location, 5100 Museum Drive , in July 2009. Since that time, the Museum has seen more than 40,000 visitors enter its doors. It remains a popular destination for families and school children across the Chicagoland area and beyond.

Don Murphy, Jr. of American Family Insurance was honored as recipient of the Outstanding Chamber Outreach Award. Don has served on the Chamber Board of Directors since 2009. His participation on the Board and in the Chamber's Ambassadors group demonstrates his commitment to the social and economic development of the Chamber. He also demonstrates excellence in business practices, leadership and positive revenue growth through his American Family Insurance agency at 10423 S. Cicero Ave. Don is a constant presence at Chamber functions and willingly steps up as volunteer where needed. He understands the value of a Chamber to its members and the community, and through his Chamber connections with fellow members has co-sponsored First-Time Home Buyer Seminars.

Nominations for the 2009 Business Awards were accepted at the Chamber office through Friday, January 22, 2010. Congratulations to these recipients.

Founded in 1946, today the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce consists of more than 300 members. The Chamber of Commerce works to represent and advance the Oak Lawn business community, striving with constant integrity, fairness and cooperation to promote and improve the economic atmosphere, business climate and image of Oak Lawn. Visit us on the web at www.oaklawnchamber.com

Moraine Valley spring enrollment sets record

Moraine Valley Community College's 2010 spring semester set a record high enrollment with 19,813 students, exceeding the 19,000 mark for the third consecutive semester.

The 2010 spring enrollment is 3.5 percent higher than a year ago, and the total number of credit hours—161,126—rose 6.7 percent compared with last spring. The 2009 fall semester held the previous record high enrollment with 19,071 students. Spring enrollment has increased 15 percent over the past five years.

"We are pleased that an increasing number of community members chose Moraine Valley this spring and that we continue to be their college of choice," Dr. Vernon O. Crawley, college president, said. "We provide an accessible and affordable learning environment that promotes quality in education and outstanding service. We have an excellent faculty and staff whose top priority is student success."

Students enrolled in the college transfer program make up 56 percent of the enrollment while career program students account for 36 percent. Thirty-eight percent of the students are enrolled full-time. Eighty-six percent of the students live within the college district and 53 percent of the students are women. The average age is 25 years old.

Factors contributing to the high enrollment include the poor economy and job market. "Many of our community members are critically aware that they need a college education to give them a broader array of choices in their career fields and good paying jobs," Dr. Crawley said. Also playing a key role, he said, is the increasing tuition costs at four-year private and public colleges and universities. "Our students know that they can receive a quality education at a much more affordable cost than at four-year institutions."

For more information, call Mark Horstmeyer, director of College and Community Relations, at (708) 974-5275, or e-mail: horstmeyer@ morainevalley.edu.

Don't count on an inheritance

by Jason Alderman

Earlier this decade, headlines blared that trillions of dollars soon would begin changing hands in the largest wealth transfer in history, as depression-era parents began passing along their nest eggs to Baby Boomer offspring. Fast forward a few years and all bets are off.

If you are among those expecting to build your retirement security on the foundation of a robust inheritance, you may want to rethink that strategy. Here are a few reasons why many seniors are revising their estate distribution plans:

Plunging account values. People heavily invested in the stock market saw their retirement account values decline significantly in 2007-2008. Although younger savers still have many years to catch up, it may be difficult for retirees; or those on the verge of retirement; to recover. Many will likely have to draw on their account principal to make ends meet, thereby depleting their savings much more rapidly than planned.

We're living longer. As average life spans increase, so does the period we'll need to survive on our retirement savings. On average, today's 65-year-old man will live until 82; a woman until 85. Many people never imagined their savings would have to last that long and didn't plan accordingly.

Misguided early retirement. When the market was booming, many people retired early, assuming they could afford the gap before Social Security and Medicare kicked in. But plummeting home equity and 401(k) balances have forced many to aggressively withdraw savings, trim expenses or even return to work.

Government programs are overburdened. Baby Boomers are beginning to use their Social Security and Medicare benefits and far fewer younger workers now fund those programs, so it's possible that benefits will decrease, premiums will rise or taxes will increase; or a combination of all three; all options will strain fixed incomes.

Skyrocketing healthcare costs. Even if they buy Medicare prescription drug and Medigap coverage, seniors, like everyone else, spend an ever-increasing percentage of income on medical care. Such costs often far outpace benefit cost-of-living increases and interest earned on investments; especially from low-risk investment vehicles many seniors favor.

Tapping home equity. Increasingly, seniors are using reverse mortgages and more traditional home equity lines and loans to draw on home equity for living expenses, thereby lessening their estate's future value.

Spreading the wealth early. Many seniors help their children and grandchildren pay for high-ticket expenses like home down payments, college and student loans. Although such gifts reduce the eventual value of their estate, there are certain tax advantages (lower estate taxes, state tax deductions for those contributing to a 529 Plan, etc.); not to mention being able to help loved ones. Just be sure that if you're the recipient you don't take such assistance as license to assume additional debt.

Long-term care. Unless they've purchased comprehensive long-term care insurance, which is quite expensive, your folks may end up burning through much of their savings should they ever require assisted living. Medicare will only pay for a nursing home once they've exhausted most of their assets.

Bottom line: It's probably risky to depend on an inheritance to provide your financial security.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
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Owner-Editor Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vview@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Engage with Artifacts at Wright's Robie House

Join a Preservation Trust curator for an in-depth examination of the design, history, ownership and conservation of rare artifacts from the Preservation Trust collection.

What: Visit Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House for a fascinating look at architecture and design through the lens of an historic book and architectural fragments with Engage with Artifacts, a new program introduced by the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust. Explore the first edition of Owen Jones' famous illustrated text, the 1856 Grammar of Ornament, a work that inspired and intrigued generations of artists and architects, including Frank Lloyd Wright. Then examine two highly ornamented architectural fragments from two of Wright's early designs; facades from both the Francis Apartment Building (1895) in Chicago and the Dana Thomas House (1902) in Springfield.

When: Sunday, March 21 at 9 a.m.

Where: Wright's Robie House: 5757 S. Woodlawn Ave. Chicago, IL, 60637.

Tickets. Advance ticket purchase is required and available at GoWright.org. Admission is $65 for Preservation Trust members and $75 non-members.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust engages the public in educational and aesthetic experiences to foster an appreciation of architecture, design and the legacy of Frank Lloyd Wright. The Preservation Trust presents two Wright structures as public historic architecture museums, his remarkable Home and Studio in Oak Park, Illinois and his Prairie style masterpiece, the Robie House in Chicago. The Preservation Trust is responsible for restoring and preserving the two Wright sites they manage, including the current multimillion dollar restoration of Wright's Robie House. More information on the many restoration, preservation and education programs of the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust can be found at GoWright.org.

Chicago Auto Show Partners with the American Red Cross to help patients in need

Every day, the American Red Cross is dedicated to helping people in need in Chicago. 2010 marks the 11th year that the Auto Show is also giving back to the people of Chicago by hosting a blood drive. From 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., February 12 through February 21, the American Red Cross will be at the Chicago Auto Show 2010 to collect blood from eligible volunteer donors.

"The need for blood is constant. With only 38 percent of the population eligible to give, it's important for eligible individuals to make blood donation part of their everyday lives," said Shelly Heiden, CEO of the Heart of America Blood Services Region. "We are so excited to partner with the Chicago Auto Show to collect blood and help save lives."

All presenting blood donors at American Red Cross blood drives at the Chicago Auto Show will be entered to win in the "Pay It Forward" promotion. The one lucky winner of this promotion will have his or her mortgage or rent paid for one month (up to $1500, utilities included). In addition, all presenting donors will receive an American Red Cross t-shirt and a $5 coupon to Baker's Square.

Join the American Red Cross family and make an appointment to donate blood at the Chicago Auto Show. You could change a life, starting with your own.

Chicago Auto Show, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. American Red Cross Blood Drive, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. February 12 - 21. McCormick Place, North Wing 2301 South Martin Luther King Drive Chicago, IL 60616

How to Donate Blood

Simply call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) or visit giveblood.givelife.org to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license, or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

New study demonstrates need for Right to Repair Legislation

Dear Editor,

New data reveals that consumers save an estimated $26 billion a year or $360 per family for vehicle service and repair at neighborhood independent repair shops compared to more costly new car dealerships. This demonstrates why Congress needs to swiftly pass the Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act (HR 2057). This legislation will prevent car manufacturers from denying access to repair information, computer codes, tools and software needed by car owners and their neighborhood repair shops to repair late model vehicles.

Historically, car owners have had the ability to repair their vehicles themselves or take them to the service facility of their choice. The car companies now seek to force consumers to return to the dealership for service and repair and are lobbying heavily against the Right to Repair Act. It is appalling that some manufacturers can take federal bailout money and then turn around and oppose a bill that would protect every American motorist from a vehicle repair monopoly.

The Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act (HR 2057) currently has the support of 53 members of Congress. Every consumer who owns or operates a vehicle in the U.S. stands to suffer economically if this bill is not passed. Please send a letter urging your members of Congress to support the Right to Repair Act by visiting www.righttorepair.org.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Schmatz, President and CEO Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association (AAIA)

Letter to the Editor.

Dear Editor,

Last Tuesday, a majority of Republican primary voters in the Board of Review's suburban district entrusted me with their votes. Thanks to each one of you for expressing your confidence in our campaign's message of bringing competent leadership and political balance to the Board and throughout Cook County government. Many thanks are also due to the hard working group of volunteers who made our primary campaign a successful one. Whether it was placing yard signs, writing letters, creating ads, delivering literature and ringing doorbells, overseeing our web site or organizing a fundraising event, they could be counted upon to help whenever asked.

To those Republicans who cast their vote for my opponent and all those citizens who did not vote in the primary, I look forward to earning your trust and support over the next nine months.

Sincerely,

Dan Patlak, Republican nominee, Commissioner of the Cook County Board of Review

Marines Get $1,910,844.64 of Trail Mix and Microwave Popcorn!

$1,910, 844.64 of trail mix and microwave popcorn has just been delivered by SupportOurTroops.Org to Marine Corps bases all across America. Yes, that's one million nine hundred thousand dollars. 383 pallets! 9 tractor-trailer loads! And all from individual American citizens to their troops.

It is a showing of the goodwill of the people for their troops. It is especially amazing because it was done during a recession. It just goes to show how real Americans step up for those who step up for them. Is this a great country or what.

The tractor-trailers delivered to the Marine Forces Reserve in Louisiana, Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany Georgia, Headquarters Battalion Washington DC, Marine Barracks Washington DC, Recruitment Depo San Diego, Camp Lejeune, Camp Pendleton, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Air Ground Combat Center 29 Palms, Air Station Yuma Arizona, Air Station Cherry Point North Carolina, Quantico, Marines Corps Community Services Command, Air Station Miramar California, Air Station New River North Carolina, Logistics Base Barstow, and the Mountain Warfare Training Center California.

A fun and positive way to show support for the troops! "Thanks Marines and we hope it shows you how much we all appreciate you", said Support Our Troops® Chairman, Martin C. Boire. "What a gesture of Americans' trust in you, and our honest gratitude for everything you do for us."

Each case is labeled with a thank-you sticker. What a fun way to show them how much we think of them! What a tremendous gesture of good will. "Your [popcorn] service makes a world of difference and helps to boost the morale of the service men and women throughout the world." -- an Admiral

Where did all this popcorn come from? From the American People! The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts went door to door down street alls across America and asked people if they would like to donate $25 of popcorn treats to the troops. And at $25 a pop this many people did.

Who did this? SupportOurTroops.Org, the Boy Scouts of America, and the Trail's-End Popcorn Company teamed up to pull this off. Said Support Our Troops Chairman Martin C. Boire: "Kids, you want to know how to pull off something this huge? Get into Scouting, you'll get to organize hundreds of things."

Who manufactured it? - Nothing but the best for our troops! Trail's-End® popcorn is known as America's Best Popcorn. It is produced by Weaver Popcorn Company, one of the largest producers and manufacturers of popcorn products in the world. An 80-year-old, family-owned company located in Indiana, Weaver Popcorn distributes its products in more than 90 countries.

About SupportOurTroops.Org. The free online troop-supporter Community at SupportOurTroops.Org offers simple ways for all of us to thank and show support to American troops (our deployed neighbors) serving all over the world. It is a non-partisan, non-political civilian organization, welcoming civilians, active-duty families, and veterans as members. Donations at SupportOurTroops.Org help us do wonderful things like this for the troops and their families.

What else are we doing? Chairman Martin C. Boire, said, "we're the license plate people. We have completed state-issuance of Support Our Troops! plates in 25 states to date, and have more underway. Those plates help us do good things like this for our deployed neighbors. Sign up for your plate today. You can find out the status of the effort in your state at www.SupportOurTroops.org." What is Support Our Troops? Support Our Troops® is a patriotic family organization aimed at protecting the well-being of the troops and their families. They Support Us – Let's Support Them!™ Civilian-led, SOT enthusiastically welcomes civilians, active-duty families, veterans, and folks from all political parties.

We offer simple, easy, everyday methods through which folks can stick up for those who stick up for all of us: official license plates, yellow ribbons, apparel, and accessories, knowing that it works to benefit the deployed troops (our neighbors) and their families. Support Our Troops is a nation-wide 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with chapters in 37 states to date.

How does Support Our Troops.org get all of this done? Through our free online community forum at SupportOurTroops.Org, and a lot of hard work by a lot of good kids and adults across America.

CFC (Combined Federal Campaign) Member #31529. Support Our Troops® is an authorized private civilian national and international nonprofit in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). It is the largest and most successful workplace charity campaign in the world. Federal employees can help Support Our Troops® by designating to code 31529.

Social Security Administration adds Young-Onset Alzheimer's to Compassionate Care Initiative

The Alzheimer's Association – Greater Illinois Chapter applauds the Social Security Administration's (SSA) landmark decision to add Young-Onset Alzheimer's to the Compassionate Care Initiative.

The initiative identifies debilitating diseases and medical conditions that meet the SSA's disability standards for Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Inclusion in the initiative allows for faster payment of Social Security benefits to individuals with Alzheimer's disease. Social Security Commissioner Michael Astrue and the SSA are to be highly praised for understanding that the cognitive impair-ment caused by Alzheim-er's disease leaves indivi-duals unable to maintain gainful employ-ment and deserving of an expedited disability determination.

The July 2009 Compassionate Allowance Hearing on Early-Onset Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias, held in Chicago, included testimony from Harry Johns, President and CEO of the National Alzheimer's Association, and several of the nation's top Alzheimer researchers, and caregivers and individuals with early-onset Alzheimer's who discussed the challenges they faced during the disability application process. During the day-long hearing, SSA officials heard about the terminal nature of Alzheimer's, the disabilities that often prohibit work in even the earliest stages of the disease, and the lack of effective treatments to modify or halt the progression of Alzheimer's. Advocates from Illinois were paramount in getting young-onset Alzheimer's disease added to the initiative.

"Until the SSA's decision, individuals with early-onset (younger-onset) Alzheimer's disease faced a number of challenges when applying for SSDI or SSI, include a long decision process, initial denials and multiple appeals," said Nicole Batsch, director of early stage and support services for the Greater Illinois Chapter. " Due to their early-onset diagnosis, no longer being able to work has an overwhelming impact on their family's financial situation."

In addition to participation in the hearing, as many as 600 people with Alzheimer's and other dementias and their caregivers responded to the Association's request to submit written comments to SSA about their experiences applying for disability benefits. A sample of these comments are posted on SSA's Compassionate Allowances www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances/statements.htm.

To learn more about this exciting development visit www.alz.org.

Ash Wednesday Services

An Ash Wednesday service will be held at 7:30 p.m. on February 17th at Burbank Manor Presbyterian Church, 7950 S. Central Ave., Burbank; along with Oak Lawn Community Church. The service will include anthems of special music by the Chancel Choir, the traditional imposition of ashes, and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Pastor Neff's sermon is entitled "Create In Me A Clean Heart". An offering will be received for the Presbyterian Hospital in Haiti.

All are welcome. More information may be obtained by visiting the church website at www.bmpcusa.com.

Easter Church Services to Advertise! Call Linda 312-624-8996

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Diabetic Protective Shoes Program

Of the sixteen million Americans with diabetes, 25% will develop foot problems related to their disease. Diabetic foot conditions develop from a combination of causes, including poor circulation and neuropathy. Diabetics suffering from neuropathy can develop minor cuts, scrapes, blisters, or pressure sores that they may not be aware of due to the insensitivity. If these minor injuries are left untreated complications may arise and lead to ulcerations or other conditions.

To help prevent these complications, Medicare has allowed coverage of therapeutic shoes along with inserts for individuals with diabetes or other problems. Medicare's intention is to reduce the incidence of foot complications that can result in expensive hospitalizations. On Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. a representative from Perfect Fit Footwear, an authorized Durable Medical Equipment Company, will be at the Louis S. Viverito Senior Center located at 7745 S. Leamington in Burbank to discuss the program and to offer shoe fittings.

Please call (708) 636-8850 to register for the program or for more information.

Exercise: Good for the Brain

You've heard that memory, as well as the ability to think and process information quickly, diminishes with age. You know the feeling. You come face to face with a longtime acquaintance and her name sticks on the tip of your tongue. Or, you suddenly draw a blank when dialing a telephone number you've known for years.

Many of us experience memory glitches and accept these occurrences as a normal sign of aging that will only worsen over time. However, there are things we can do to stay sharp. New studies show that exercise actually improves memory and cognitive ability.

According to Dr. Steven Weiniger, author of Stand Taller - Live Longer: An Anti-Aging Strategy, "Current research shows physical fitness has a positive effect on mental fitness. Regular exercise is a powerful strategy for improving memory, as well as reducing the risks of illness that could lead to memory loss."

A 2006 study reported in the Annals of Internal Medicine found that people ages 65 and older that exercised at least three times per week had a 30-40% lower risk of dementia than those in their age group who did not exercise.

"You cannot ignore the mind-body connection. Research shows consistent exercise reduces the risk of developing dementia and Alzheimer's. As important to note is that not exercising increases the risk of these illnesses. For the sake of the brain and the body, move it to keep it," says Dr. Weiniger.

Here are some easy ways to get started:

Walk. Find excuses to walk every day. Stroll to the mailbox; always choose parking spots that are further from your desired destination, walk around the house while chatting on the phone. If you've already developed a daily walking routine, increase the distance and duration of your trips.

Explore. Now is a great time to discover new interests that involve active participation. Start a garden, participate in nature walks, volunteer in your community, or join a social group that organizes regular outings.

Partner. Schedule a regular walk with a good friend; plan picnic lunches that begin and end with a walk in the park; sign up for a yoga, tai chi or posture exercise class. Commit to stay fit together.

Exercise your brain by moving your body. Start now, be consistent and gradually increase activity to stay fit in body and mind.

Author: Renee North, CPEP, NASM-CPT is a health and fitness consultant who trains wellness professionals for www.BodyZone.com.

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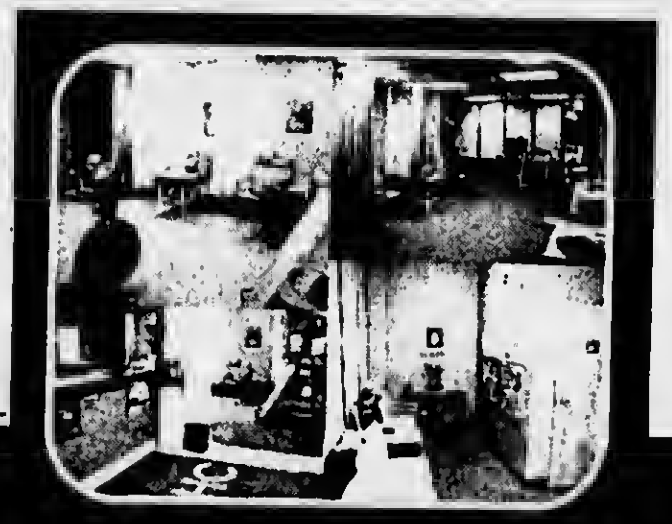
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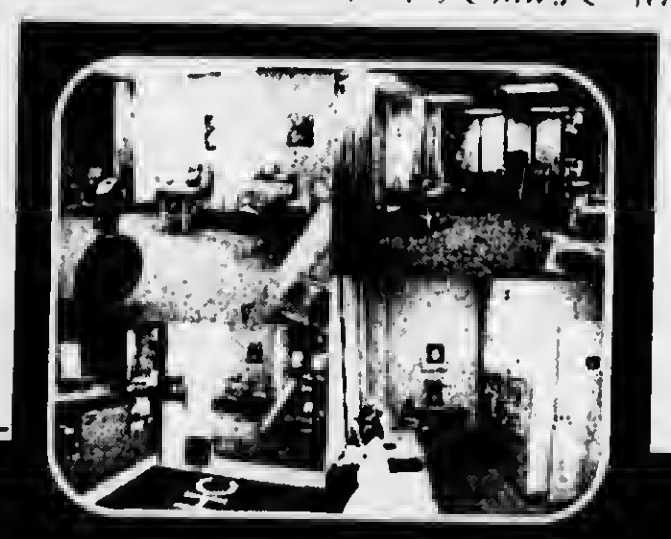
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Oak Lawn Library announces spring sessions for children registration

The Oak Lawn Public Library Youth Services Department will open registration for their spring session of children's programs Saturday, February 27.

Preference is given to Oak Lawn residents and students of Oak Lawn schools. Each child's library card must be presented at registration.

This season's offerings include: a variety of storytimes for children age six months through eight years-old; a Strawberry Shortcake Party for ages 2-7 and their caregiver; a monthly science exploration program for children in kindergarten through second grade;

"Read to Rover," a monthly program that gives young readers age seven and up a chance to practice reading aloud to a registered therapy dog; a chess club for students in third through tenth grade; trading card game events for grades three and up;

"The Write Stuff," an after school program for budding young writers in third through fifth grade; a monthly cooking program for students in third through fifth grade; activities based upon The 39 Clues book series for grades four through six; movie showings on school holidays; teen movies, teen game events, teen craft nights and the Junior Friends of the Library volunteer group for students in sixth through tenth grade; and an Earth Day concert for children of all ages and their families.

For more information, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Graffiti Art is taking over The Renaissance Blackstone Hotel!

Join us as the legendary Chicago hotel celebrates its gangster image with the Outlaw Art Event, an exhibit of graffiti works by Kaves, the original Brooklyn graffiti artist, and even a piece from the General Manager of the Blackstone, Rob Cartwright!

The hotel that once hosted gangster Al Capone within its walls is going back to its notorious roots with this exciting new show at the The Art Hall at the Renaissance Blackstone Hotel, 636 S. Michigan Ave.Chicago on Thursday, February 18, 2010. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

Dennis Mills has been elected fellow of the American Physical Society

Dennis Mills of the U.S. Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory has been elected a fellow of the American Physical Society. The honor recognizes his development of synchrotron X-ray optics and related techniques, the build-out of beamlines at the Advanced Photon Source at Argonne and the development of X-ray monochromators, phase plates, and timing techniques.

He has also been recognized for his guidance at the Journal of Synchrotron Radiation and for initiating the National Neutron and X-ray School.

He is currently deputy associate lab director of photon sciences and deputy director of the Advanced Photon Source, which provides the hemisphere's most brilliant x-ray beams for research in almost all scientific disciplines. Mills' many awards include the Advanced Photon Source Arthur H. Compton Award in 1998 and the University of Chicago Pinnacle of Education Award in 2008.

Mills earned his Ph.D. degree and master's degree in applied physics at Cornell University and his bachelor's degree in physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

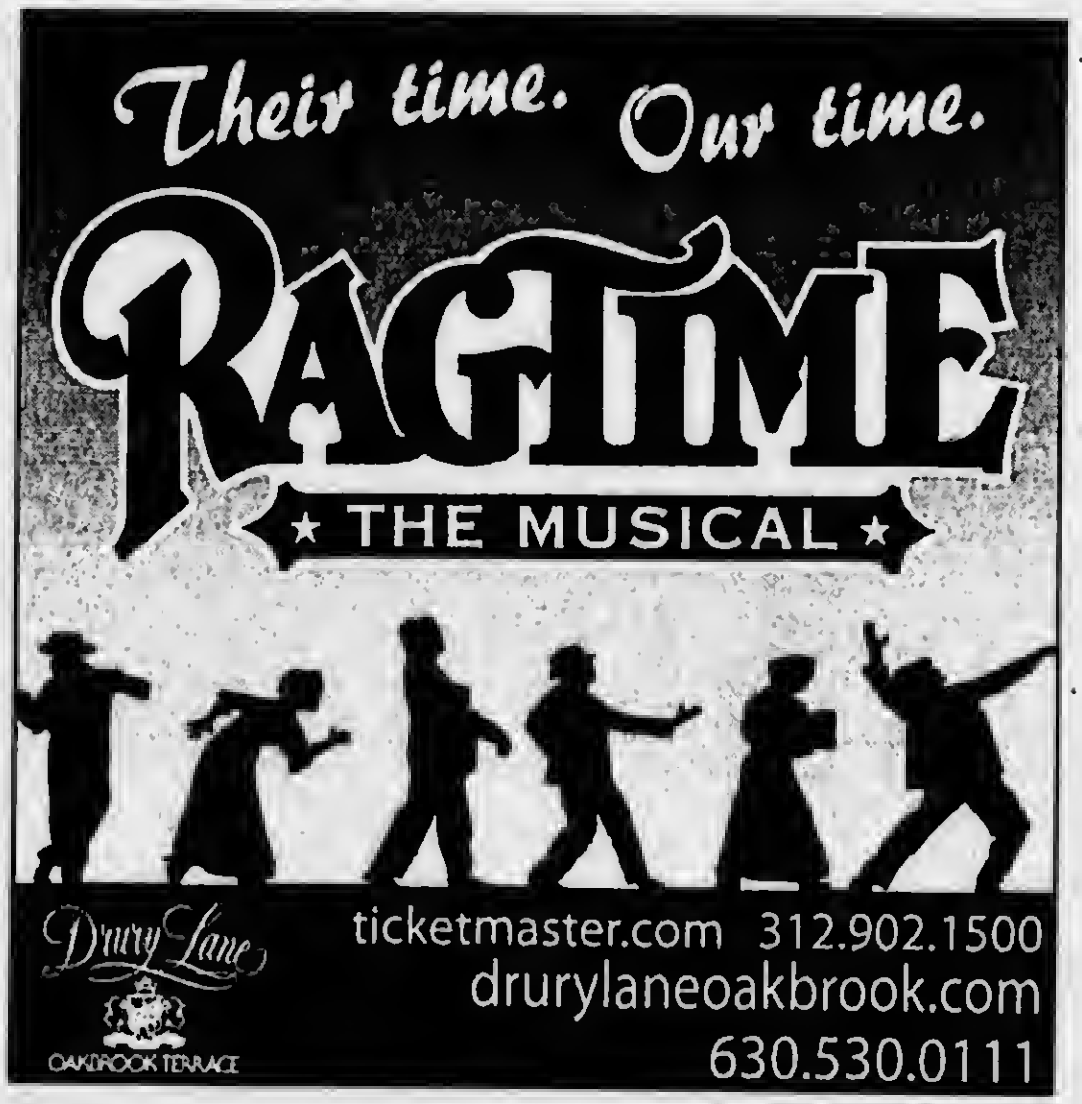
Argonne National Laboratory seeks solutions to pressing national problems in science and technology. The nation's first national laboratory, Argonne conducts leading-edge basic and applied scientific research in virtually every scientific discipline. Argonne researchers work closely with researchers from hundreds of companies, universities, and federal, state and municipal agencies to help them solve their specific problems, advance America's scientific leadership and prepare the nation for a better future.

With employees from more than 60 nations, Argonne is managed by UChicago Argonne, LLC for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science.

IHOP raises money for Children's Miracle Network

IHOP, world renowned for their signature buttermilk pancakes, has just set a goal to raise $1.75 million for Children's Miracle Network and other local charities during its celebration of National Pancake Day on February 23, 2010.

This ambitions goal will raise a cumulative $5 million in the first five years of IHOP's National Pancake Day program. From 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., IHOP restaurants nationwide will offer their guests a free short stack (3) of IHOP's signature buttermilk pancakes, and in return, ask guests to donate what they would have paid for the pancakes, or more, to their local children's hospital or another designated local charity.



Lincoln State Cat Club Donations to Cat-Friendly

Gronps Totals More Than $100,000 Over 50 Years

It didn't take long for the Lincoln State Cat Club (LSCC) to start using the proceeds of its annual cat show to the betterment of cats through donations to feline health research and to various cat-friendly charitable organizations. The first donation to The Illinois Citizens Animal Welfare League was made after the first LSCC cat show 1961. The group's 50 anniversary show is being held February 27 and 28 at Harper College in Palatine, IL.

The Club has also purchased a number of animal oxygen masks that have been donated to greater Chicago area fire departments to be used to save animals' lives in the event of a fire.

Several of the health related donations benefit all cats to this day thanks to LSCC funding. These studies include:

•A health study conducted at Ohio State University and funded through The Morris Animal Foundation characterizing the effects of various respiratory viruses on cats was integral in the development of the Feline Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Pneumonitis vaccine.

•A cardiomyopathy study at the University of Tennessee, funded through The Morris Animal Foundation, proved the use of calcium channel blockers could not only prolong life, but in some cases reverse the disease in cats.

•A study dealing with the development of a vaccine as an alternative to the traditional surgical neuter or spay.

•A project to map the feline genome with the purpose of finding new treatments and means of diagnosing feline diseases.

Donations throughout the club's 50 years have been made to the following organizations:

University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine – Scholarship for student specializing in Feline Medicine Morris Animal Foundation

Cornell Feline Health Center

The Anti-Cruelty Society of Chicago – Neuter / Spay Program

Tree House Animal Foundation

West Suburban Animal Shelter

Second Chance Animal Shelter

Elsa Wild Animal Appeal

Assisi Animal Foundation

Aunt B's Bed and Breakfast

Home for Endangered and Lost Pets – St. Charles, Ill. - Neuter / Spay Program

Kay's Animal Shelter – Arlington Heights, Ill. – Neuter / Spay Program

Anderson Animal Shelter – Elgin, Ill. - Neuter / Spay Program

Animal Welfare League - Neuter / Spay Program

Pet Rescue - Neuter / Spay Program

CFA Purebred Rescue

For more information and for a coupon for $1 off admission, go to www.lscats.org.

Evergreen Park Community Center will hold classes

OC'S offers AARP Safe Defensive Driving Class five times a year. The eight hour refresher course is designed for motorists age 50 and older. The course helps refine existing skills and defensive driving techniques.

The defensive Driving 2010 Schedule classes are held Thurs. and Fri. from 9:00 am until 1:00 p.m. April 8 & 9 June 3 & 4 Aug. 5 & 6 Oct. 7 & 8. Insurance discounts may be applied after completing the course.

Register in person or mail check (payable to AARP) $12 (members) $14 (nonmembers), include name, address and phone number to OCS, 3450 W 97th St. Evergreen Park, IL 60805.

Moraine Valley Community College invites you to attend the following Lean and Green Networking Events

Lean Networking Group: Trash to Treasure (waste products synergy) - Friday, February 19 from 8-10:00 a.m. The Waste to Profit Network (WTPN) will work us through ways that companies can identify innovative applications and opportunities for their waste streams. The focus will be on long-term supply chain needs not onetime disposals. Intended for manufacturing and other businesses addressing Lean & Green initiatives. Space is limited, Register early!] The program is located at 9000 W. College Pkwy. Palos Hills, IL, Building T, Room T910. Course code: MP4-431-170, Cost $15.00, includes breakfast.

Lean Networking Group: PortionPac Corp Plant Tour - Friday, April 23, 9am - 11am PortionPac is a different kind of chemical company believing in using the fewest number of cleaning products possible. Their commitment to sustainability grows out of their understanding that caring about people and protecting the planet leads to prosperous communities and strong economies. Join us for a plant tour and an inspiring journey. The program will be at PortionPac, 400 N. Ashland, Chicago, IL 60622. Course Code: MP4-431-171. Cost: $15.00, includes breakfast You can register by phone-(708) 974-2110 or in person-Building S, Registration Office, Room S103. Online can be used for previously registered students. For more information, call (708) 974-5735 or e-mail wdes@moraineValley.edu.

Commissioner Frank Avila holding an Asian Carp.

Diligent observalence over Asian Carp

Commissioner Frank Avila, of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, attended the event when a fish toxicant, was released into the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal (CSSC) to prevent Asian Carp from entering Lake Michigan.

The action to release the toxicant into the canal was in response to the required scheduled maintenance of one of two electric barriers currently in operation on the CSSC. The electric barriers operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers were constructed to prevent the movement of Asian Carp and other invasive species into Lake Michigan.

Commissioner Avila stated, "While the barrier was shut down for maintenance the toxicant was applied as a precaution to guard against Asian Carp entering Lake Michigan. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, in coordination with a multi-agency Asian Carp Rapid Response Workgroup, managed the application of the rotenone."

Commissioner Avila concluded by saying, "The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District was not involved with the application of the toxicant, however, the District cooperated with the multi-agency workgroup by allowing the agencies access to District land and the canals." He is shown holding the only Bighead Asian Carp found during the project. It was found upstream from the MWRDGC Lockport Powerhouse. The majority of the other fish were common carp and other species.

Old St. Patrick's Church Siamsa na nGael

"A Vision for Tomorrow". Old St. Patrick's Church hosts the 14th annual Siamsa na nGael program entitled "A Vision for Tomorrow" on March 16. This unique event specifically honors the feast of St. Patrick and highlights world class Celtic entertainment. This year, we will have three special guest narrators, including Sister Rosemary Connelly a well-known champion of social causes from Misericordia.

Previous narrators have included an Academy Award winning actor, Academy Award nominated actress and a Pulitzer Prize winner. The remaining guest narrators will be announced shortly. This years program explores the stories of those who left their homes in Ireland to build schools, churches, hospitals and universities here in Chicago. Guests will enjoy performances by the Metropolis Symphony Orchestra, Old St. Patrick's Concert Choir, World Champion Trinity Irish Dancers, Piper, Soloists Catherine O'Connell, and many more. Event chairs for this benefit are Mayor Richard and Maggie Daley and Patrick and Shirley Ryan. Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Siamsa na nGael will be held at the Chicago Symphony Center, 220 South Michigan Ave. Ticket prices range from $25 - $55. Tickets can be purchased through the Symphony Center Box office at 312.294.3000 or www.cso.org. Proceed benefit Old St. Patrick's Church.

American Chartered Bank shows support for community businesses

American Chartered Bank is hosting 2010 Prom Expo on February 20th from 9:00am - 2:00pm. The 2010 Prom Expo is being held at the American Chartered Bank branch in Tinley Park. Local businesses will be participating in the Expo. Anyone who stops in during the Expo will have a chance to win great door prizes! Call Emily Peterhans at 708-403-6330 or email [illegible] for more details! Or visit us on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/ACBPromExpo . If you RSVP YES to the event you will get a second chance in the drawings when you stop by! American Chartered Bank/ 9561 W 171st Street, Tinley Park, IL 60187

Lincoln State Cat Club
50th Annual CFA All Breed
Benefit Cat Show
February 27 & 28, 2010
9:00AM – 4:00PM
Harper College – Building M
1200 W Algonquin Rd.
Palatine, IL
FREE PARKING
$1.00 off (1) one admission with ad
Help stock our shelter donation bin
By bringing a can or bag of cat food.

Brother Rice to host Seventh Grade Shadow Day

On Monday, February 22, Brother Rice will host a special shadow day for seventh grade boys. The will consist of a special 30 minute class schedule followed by an open house style event where the students can participate in activities and athletic events in the afternoon. Some of the activities will include basketball, batting cages, video games, chess and video editing.

Students are to arrive before 8:10 AM and will be dismissed at 2:00 PM. Lunch will be provided and are encouraged to wear apparel representing their respective grammar schools. Please visit www.brrice.org/seventhgradeshadow.htm to register and contact Admissions Director Tim Lyons '92 with any questions tlyons@brrice.org..

Under the direction of the Congregation of the Christian Brothers, Brother Rice High School has been educating young men since 1956. Brother Rice High School has been named a Top 50 Catholic High School in the United States by the Acton Institute five consecutive years. Since the honor roll's inception in 2004, Brother Rice is the only Catholic high school in Illinois to be named Top 50 in America all five years. Brother Rice continues to be the academic, spiritual, and athletic leader.

Pictured: Senior Cormack Muleahy (seated) with STL Head Football Coach Jim Grannan.

MULCAHY SIGNS WITH DRAKE UNIVERSITY

St. Laurence High School standout football player and team captain Cormack Muleahy (Palos Heights) has signed a National Letter of Intent to play football for the Drake University Bulldogs in Des Moines , Iowa . Muleahy, a highly touted defensive tackle and offensive guard, was a three-year varsity starter for the Vikings, helping to lead the gridiron team to three consecutive state football playoff appearances. Among the many accolades Muleahy received were being named first team all-Catholic White team, and being selected first team all-Area (SouthtownStar and Reporter). Muleahy is a graduate of St. Alexander Grade School in southwest-suburban Palos Heights .

"I'm very proud of Cormack," says Head Football Coach Jim Grannan. "He was a leader on and off the field, and I am certain he will have a great career at Drake under Coach Chris Creighton. I wish him all the best."

Brother Rice's Scholastic Team improves to 8-2

Over the past week, the Brother Rice scholastic team has defeated Fenwick, St. Rita and Joliet Catholic to improve their record to 8-2. The Crusaders are on a five match winning streak that included victories over St. Rita last Tuesday and Fenwick and Joliet Catholic yesterday.

On Tuesday, February 2, the Varsity Scholastic Bowl team soundly defeated the St. Rita team by a score of 250 to 130. Led by acting captain Sean McLaughlin, the team rebounded from a fifty point deficit to take a commanding lead following a well placed time out. The Crusaders followed up with a 223-185 defeat of Fenwick and Joliet Catholic yesterday.

Ned Rooney and James Buschbach stood out in all three matches. The upcoming juniors also assisted. Bill Munizzi, Ryan Griffin, Connor Fitzgerald, and DJ Boyce chipped in for the victories. The team felt the absence of Chris Nemeh who joined the visit but could not contribute due to illness. Additional Varsity Scholastic Bowl members include Alex Jackiw, Dave Michalik, and Brett Rimkus.

The Varsity Scholastic Bowl Crusaders are headed to the South Metropolitan Scholastic Bowl tournament at Bishop McNamara on February 16, 2010.

Under the direction of the Congregation of the Christian Brothers, Brother Rice High School has been educating young men since 1956. Brother Rice High School has been named a Top 50 Catholic High School in the United States by the Acton Institute five consecutive years. Since the honor roll's inception in 2004, Brother Rice is the only Catholic high school in Illinois to be named Top 50 in America all five years. Brother Rice continues to be the academic, spiritual, and athletic leader.

Governors State University awarded grant money

The U.S. Department of Labor today announced more than $225 million in health care and high growth training grants funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The grants will allow community colleges, community-based organizations, state workforce agencies and other public entities to deliver training that leads to employment in a range of health care fields and other growing industries. With today's announcement, organizations in all 50 states have received a share of nearly $750 million in competitive grant funding made available through the Department of Labor.

Governors State University, in University Park, Ill., will receive nearly $5 million to assist unemployed, dislocated, and low-wage workers in the health care industry.

"The Recovery Act's investments are making a positive difference in the lives of America's working families," said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. "The Recovery Act funded grants announced will ensure thousands of workers across the nation can receive high-quality training and employment services, which will lead to good jobs in health care and other industries offering career-track employment and good pay and benefits."

While grantees will serve a wide range of workers, each project will focus on targeted regional populations. Approximately $25 million is reserved for projects serving communities impacted by automotive industry re-structuring. "With these funds, workers in communities hardest hit by auto layoffs will receive additional resources to help them prepare for and find new jobs," said Dr. Edward Montgomery, executive director of the White House Council on Automotive Communities and Workers. "The president and the administration remain committed to supporting auto communities and their workers." Auto communities benefitting from these programs are listed in the grant summaries found at http://www.doleta.gov/factsheet/ARRA_Health_and_Other.pdf.

The announcement marks the sixth and final round of competitive grants made available for employment and training through the Recovery Act. Projects funded through these grants will be conducted in partnership with the public workforce system, businesses and other organizations to guarantee that training leads to jobs. For more information on the range of Department of Labor Employment and Training programs, visit http://www.doleta.gov.

One of CJB's 7th grade boys' basketball teams recently won the annual St. Rita Tournament. Team members include (bottom row, from left) Ben Justice, Scott Uher, Tyler Uher (middle row, from left) Ross Jarzembowski, Michael Ryan, Kyle Kenagy, Dusty Uher (top row, from left) TJ Vorva, Jake Rost.

CJB 7th Grade Boys Win St. Rita Basketball Tournament

The Cardinal Joseph Bernardin 7th Grade Boys Basketball team lit up the courts and took home the championship trophy at the 2010 St. Rita Basketball Tournament. The Cardinals won the title with a 33-24 victory over St. Francis Xavier of La Grange. The 16- team single elimination tournament concluded Monday, February 1.

In the semi-final marquee matchup, the Cardinals faced Chicago Public League powerhouse Beasley Academic. The Beasley team included three players who were over six feet tall. Chicago Bulls all-star guard Derrick Rose is one of several Beasley graduates with tremendous basketball talent. "The size and speed of the teams in this tournament was intimidating," said Michael Ryan, a 7th grader. "It was a great experience for the entire team to come from behind and win the game in the very last second." The Cardinals defeated Beasley 29-27 with a buzzer beating lay-up.

According to Coach John Rost, "The first place finish was a culmination of efforts by all the boys — a result of their dedication to playing great fundamental basketball and playing as a team where every member contributes." Assistant Coach Scott Kenagy added, "Despite the size and reputation of the competition, our kids remained focused and determined throughout the tournament."

This Cardinals' team was the 2009 South Side Basketball League champion and is currently in first place in the 2010 standings with a 11-0 record.

Five members of the Fighting Mustangs, St. Rita of Cascia High School 's football team, signed national letters of intent on Wednesday, February 3, 2010. Pictured (standing, left to right): Bruce and Cheretha Gaston, Peggy and Joe Campagna, Mary Pat and Mike Connolly, Principal Sally Deenihan, Head Football Coach Todd Kuska, Dave and Peggy Ladd, Mary and William McNamara, and Athletic Director Mike Zunica. (Sitting left to right): Bruce Gaston Jr., Joe Campagna, Dan Connolly, Tim Ladd, and Ron McNamara.

Five St. Rita of Cascia High School Mustangs sign to college football

Five members of the Fighting Mustangs, St. Rita of Cascia High School 's football team, signed national letters of intent on Wednesday, February 3, 2010. These Ritamen helped St. Rita obtain its most recent Prep Bowl Championship and look forward to the opportunity to play college football. The players' parents were present for the signing, along with Head Football Coach Todd Kuska, Athletic Director Mike Zunica, Assistant Athletic Director Zach Blaszak, and Principal Sally Deenihan.

Joe Campagna (Inside Linebacker) signed a letter of intent to attend Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan . He was congratulated by his parents, Joe and Peggy Campagna. Joe attended St. Cajetan School and resides in the Beverly neighborhood of Chicago . Speaking about his signing Joe said, "I am glad I will have the opportunity to play college football. I give credit to all the teachers and coaches at St. Rita who have helped me get to the college level."

Dan Connolly (Defensive End) signed a letter of intent to attend Northwood University in Midland , Michigan . He was congratulated by his parents, Mike and Mary Pat Connolly. Dan attended St. Catherine of Alexandria School and resides in the Mt. Greenwood neighborhood of Chicago . Dan will also be a member Northwood's baseball team. Dan said, "I am grateful for the opportunity Northwood has given me. I am looking forward to working hard and getting out as much as I put into my experience there. I am thankful and could not have made it to this point without the help and guidance of my St. Rita Family."

Bruce Gaston, Jr. (Defensive Tackle) signed a letter of intent to attend Purdue University . He was congratulated by his parents, Bruce and Cheretha Gaston. Bruce attended Our Lady of the Gardens School and resides in Glenwood , IL . Speaking of his decision Bruce said, "Purdue just felt right to me. It has great academics, athletics, and an overall great atmosphere. I knew it was the best place for me and where I want to spend the next few years of my life."

Tim Ladd (Offensive Tackle) signed a letter of intent to attend St. Xavier University . He was congratulated by his parents, Dave and Peggy Ladd. Tim attended St. Cajetan School and lives in the Beverly neighborhood of Chicago . At the signing Tim said, "It will be exciting to become a part of a great football program that is also close to home. I love that I have the opportunity to attend St. Xavier and will be able to work toward winning a national championship with the Cougars."

Ron McNamara (Linebacker) signed a letter of intent to attend Northwood University in Midland , Michigan . He was congratulated by his parents, William and Mary McNamara. Ron attended St. Mary Star of the Sea School and resides in Oak Lawn , IL . Ron said, "I am excited to be a part of the football program at Northwood and attend a great university. I look forward to playing in the best Division II conference in the country."

Connolly, McNamara, and Campagna will all be playing Division II football in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Therefore, in the coming years Connolly and McNamara will be playing opposite Campagna as their two teams face-off.

The five Ritamen were all enthusiastic during the signing and gave thanks to their parents, families, and friends for supporting them. These are five outstanding young men that have been very active and successful while at St. Rita High School . They have numerous academic and athletic achievements and St. Rita congratulates them as they prepare to begin their next journey in life.

OCS Volunteer Program Policy

The figure to the left is based on minimum wage. Approximately 92 volunteers were honored at an Award Luncheon Nov. 30, 2009. Mrs. Pitluck prepared another excellent meal. Awards are distributed based on documented volunteer hours.

It is the volunteers' responsibility to record earned service hours. Hours are accumulated each time a volunteer works for OCS, Crafts, Chorus, Income Tax, Parkettes, Pantry etc. Hours are recorded and logged in the volunteer's permanent record.

Basic Pin = 250 hours, each emerald = additional increments of 250 hours up to a maximum of 9 emeralds. The next level requires 1000 hours worked to receive another pin and 1000 hours for subsequent diamonds (maximum of 9)

Want to Earn Volunteer Hours?

Instructions Below...

The following OCS groups are seeking volunteers... Craft Group (Thursday am), Double Nickel + Chorus (Wed.), Income Tax Counselors (Mon - Fri), Evergreen Parkettes (Mon), OCS Office and OCS Garden (Mon - Fri), Senior Citizens Council (3rd Thur. each month), and "Memories to Go" (anytime you have).

The very talented Double Nickels and Parkettes take their shows on the road and need your help in finding additional bookings. Please spread the word.

Barnes & Noble bookfair to benefit the Acorn Public Library

The Acorn Public Library in Oak Forest is partnering with the Barnes & Noble store in Orland Park to present a book fair to benefit the library on Saturday February 20, 2010. On that day, that Barnes and Noble store will contribute a percentage of sales made with a special voucher to the library. Anyone cans support the library by buying books, CDs, DVDs, magazines, gifts, games or items at the store's café.

Purchases must be made with a book fair voucher in order for the library to receive its portion of the sale. This voucher is available at the library or online at www.acorulibrary.org. These vouchers can be used by anyone, from Acorn patrons to family and friends who live in surrounding communities. The amount of the sale given to the library will vary depending on the total sales of the event, but it will be at least ten percent.

The library will be presenting several entertaining programs at the store during the course of the day. At 10 AM, Pockets the Clown will entertain kids of all ages. At 11 AM, our youth services librarian will lead a story time for young children. Finally, at 2 PM, there will be a literary trivia contest where customers can win a limited number of Barnes & Noble gift cards.

Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in Oak Forest. The Barnes and Noble is located at 160 Orland Park Place in Orland Park. Please call the library at (708) 687-3700 for more information

Chamber of Commerce Hosts 64th Annual Board Installation at Hilton

Members and supporters of the Oak Lawn business community gathered on Saturday, January 30 at the Hilton Oak Lawn (9333 S. Cicero Ave.) to honor the 2010 Officers and Directors of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce during the 64th Annual Installation. The Monte Carlo-themed event featured casino entertainment and offered attendees the opportunity to try their luck at roulette, craps or blackjack. Each attendee received 500 complimentary game chips with their ticket. Gaming was provided by Casino Party Planners, Inc.

The evening began with remarks from emcee, Bob Kuenster of Thompson and Kuenster Funeral Home, and past president of the Chamber. The Installation of the 2010 Board of Directors was lead by Village Clerk, Jane Quinlan, who spoke of her involvement of the Chamber dating back to her childhood years when she volunteered at the Chamber's annual golf outing. Incoming president, Rita Olsen of the Gateway Motel & Inn addressed the important role all residents play in supporting small business. Anne Marie Casey, of Annie's, Ltd., and Chamber past president, read remarks on behalf of Village President, Dave Heilmann, who was unable to attend the event.

The Chamber also honored Brian Anderson of the Hilton, who retired following 30 years of service to the Hilton Oak Lawn. The Chamber presented Brian with a special gift to thank him for his assistance to the Chamber over the years.

Attendees dined on hors d'oeuvres which included vegetables, fruit skewers, seafood and other delicacies, beef tenderloin carving station and pasta preparation station and delicious sweet table, complete with a roulette wheel-shaped cake. The evening concluded with attendees redeeming their game chips for raffle tickets. A variety of raffle baskets including a trip to Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena , Hilton overnight package, hotel and restaurant certificates, candy, wine and other items were featured.

The following individuals were installed as Executive Officers for 2010: President, Rita Olsen of the Gateway Motel & Inn; First Vice President, Christy Hernandez of Archer Bank; Second Vice President, John Crivellone of United Security Services; Treasurer, Patti Johnson of Suburban Bank & Trust, and Secretary, Jeff Reichl of Marquette Bank.

Installed Directors include Linda Atkins, Steve Augle Karen Boll, Peggy Burk, Dr. Sandra Bury, Jennifer Coriell, Tom Cusack, Larry Deetjen, Dr. David Finkelstein, Greg Foertsch, Mary Grana, Rick Harmon, Larry Lehman, Peggy McClanahan, Gene Mondello, Ginger Morgan, Don Murphy, Tom Orlowski, Barb Perino, Michael Riordan, Michelle Williams, and Adam Woodworth.

Black Ensemble Theater continues its five play season of excellence

The Black Ensemble Theater opens its 2010 Season and continues its Five Play Season of Excellence Dedicated to the Music with the World Premiere production of "My Brother's Keeper (The Story of the Nicholas Brothers©." Written by Rueben Echoles and produced and directed by Black Ensemble Theater Founder and Executive Director Jackie Taylor with Assistant Director Daryl Brooks, "My Brother's Keeper (The Story of the Nicholas Brothers)" vibrantly tells the story behind the greatest tap dancers that ever lived. Running through May 16, preview performances begin March 03 at the Black Ensemble Theater, 4520 N. Beacon Street

Having danced for nine U.S. presidents, headlined shows all over the world, and appeared in every major television show, nightclub, and theater in America , the Nicholas brothers danced their way into the hearts of millions with successful careers spanning sixty years. Appearing at segregated clubs in the 1930s and in music videos in the 1990s, Fayard and Harold Nicholas dismantled racial barriers and became the most famous dance team of the twentieth century. Starring Rueben Echoles and RaShawn Thompson as the famous Nicholas Brothers, "My Brother's Keeper (The Story of the Nicholas Brothers)" will showcase the power and excitement of these two dazzling men and share a joyous story with the audience.

"The Nicholas brothers were an extraordinary duo that helped ease the racial tensions in our country when it was at its worst. They touched the hearts of people far and wide and in 'My Brother's Keeper (The Story of the Nicholas Brothers)' we plan to bring their unique spirit to the audience. In true Black Ensemble fashion we expect each and every patron to be toe-tapping their way out of the theater and into the next week." said Taylor .

Supporting Echoles and Thompson as the remarkable Nicholas Brothers is Dawn Mitchell as their mother, Viola Nicholas; Donald Barnes as the family patriarch, Ulysses Nicholas; Melanie McCullough as Mrs. Fayard Nicholas; and Kylah Frye as Harold Nicholas' wife, the legendary Dorothy Dandridge. "My Brother's Keeper (The Story of the Nicholas Brothers)" also stars Allison McCorkle, Carrie, Christopher Kudlacz, Cory Wright, Daryl Brooks, Jessica Moore, Michael Bartlet, Rhonda Preston, and Shakila Grigler.

Musical Director Robert Reddrick and Musical Arranger Thomas Washington are joined by a six-piece orchestra that includes Tracy Baker on bass, Herbert Walker on guitar, Mark Montrop on piano, Hank Ford on saxophone, Bill McFarland on trombone, and Paul Howard on trumpet.

In addition to directing, Taylor is also costume designer and is joined on the production team by Leah Griffith (stage manager), Denise Karczewski (lighting design), and Carl Ulaszek (set design).

Running through May 16, performances for "My Brother's Keeper (The Story of the Nicholas Brothers)" are Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 3:000 p.m. Preview performances will be held Saturday, March 03; Sunday, March 14; Friday, March 19; and Saturday, March 20.

The big bright beautiful musical live on stage in Chicago

Broadway In Chicago, along with producers DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions, Ltd., are pleased to announce that individual tickets to the Broadway production of SHREK THE MUSICAL went on sale on February 12, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. Tony and Drama Desk Award-winning, SHREK THE MUSICAL will play the Cadillac Palace Theatre (151 W. Randolph St.) for a limited engagement beginning July 13 – September 5, 2010. SHREK THE MUSICAL will launch the national tour in Chicago beginning on July 13, 2010.

"Chicago is a great theatre town and the perfect city to launch the SHREK THE MUSICAL National Tour. We feel we are in really good hands with the Broadway In Chicago team who have unmatched experience and success in presenting Broadway musicals. Everyone on the creative team has strong ties to the city of Chicago and is looking forward to getting to work on the touring production," said Bill Damaschke, Producer.

SHREK THE MUSICAL features a book and lyrics by Pulitzer Prize® winner David Lindsay-Abaire (Rabbit Hole), music by Olivier Award-winner Jeanine Tesori (Thoroughly Modern Millie; Caroline, or Change), and is directed by Tony Award® nominee Jason Moore (Avenue Q). SHREK THE MUSICAL has set and costume designs by Tony Award® winner Tim Hatley, lighting design by Olivier Award winner Hugh Vanstone, sound design by Peter Hylenski; choreography by Josh Prince, music direction by Tim Weil, and orchestrations by Danny Troob & John Clancy.

An entirely new musical, SHREK THE MUSICAL is based on the story and characters from William Steig's book Shrek!, as well as the DreamWorks Animation film Shrek, the first chapter of the Shrek movie series.

Tickets for SHREK THE MUSICAL went on sale, Friday, February 12, 2010. Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St. and 18 W. Monroe St.); the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000, all Ticketmaster retail locations (including Hot Tix and select Carson Pirie Scott, Coconuts and Tye stores); and online at www.BroadwayInChicago.com. Groups of 10 or more should call (312) 977-1710.

The Tchaikovsky Ballet Theatre's Sleeping Beauty

Hollywood Entertainment Group presents The Tchaikovsky Ballet Theatre's "Sleeping Beauty" for two performances only Saturday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 21 at 2 p.m. at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E Congress Pkwy. Individual tickets are currently on-sale.

Founded in 1870, The Tchaikovsky Ballet Theatre, located in Perm, Russia, is one of Russia's most distinguished artistic companies, and specializes in performing Tchaikovsky's work including Petipa's original 1890 production of "Sleeping Beauty."

The Joffrey Ballet warms the hearts of Chicago with Sir Frederick Ashton's timeless Cinderella

The Joffrey Ballet's 2009-2010 "Season of Legends" continues with Sir Frederick Ashton's Cinderella, back by popular demand. Widely considered one of the greatest ballet interpretations of this timeless fairytale, Ashton's Cinderella is an enchanting fantasy full of splendor, humor and magic. The Chicago Sinfonietta, the official orchestra of The Joffrey Ballet, under the baton of conductor Scott Speck, will provide live musical accompaniment of Sergei Prokofiev's classic score. Cinderella will take place at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Parkway, in nine performances only, February 17 – February 28, 2010.

"As a company known for its many 'firsts,' The Joffrey Ballet was the first to perform Ashton's Cinderella in America in October 2006," notes Joffrey Ballet Artistic Director Ashley C. Wheater. "Having worked closely with Sir Ashton at The Royal Ballet, I can confidently say that The Joffrey upholds the full ingenuity, sincerity and authenticity of his brilliant work. A work for the entire company, Cinderella is one of the Joffrey's most popular and lavish productions ever and we are proud to revive it this season." The Joffrey Ballet retains the exclusive rights to perform Ashton's Cinderella.

Performed in three acts with 39 different characters portrayed, Cinderella is a rags-to-riches fairytale about a downtrodden young Cinderella, a glass slipper and a handsome prince, who are all brought together by a fairy godmother. Ashton creates a mysterious and magical world where pumpkins become coaches, rags turn to ball gowns, and the comedy of Cinderella's pantomime step-sister portrayed, as is tradition, by male dancers—provides the perfect foil for the developing romance of Cinderella and the Prince.

Sir Frederick Ashton joined The Royal Ballet of London as choreographer when the company was founded in 1931 and served as its Artistic Director from 1963 to 1970. When Cinderella premiered at the Sadler's Wells Ballet (London) in December 1948, it was not only Ashton's first full-evening ballet, but also the first production in the West to use Prokofiev's hauntingly brilliant score, which was composed specifically for Ashton's choreography. Ashton later revised and restaged Cinderella for The Royal Ballet in 1965.

Single tickets, priced from $25 to $145, are available for purchase at The Joffrey Ballet's official Box Office, located in the lobby of 10 E. Randolph Street , as well as the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University box office, all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers, by telephone at (800) 982-2787 or online at www.ticketmaster.com

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Aleksey Miroshnichenko, Artistic Director, was appointed Chief Ballet Master in 2009. He trained at the Vaganova Academy of Russian Ballet and joined the Mariinsky Theatre in 1992, where he discovered his true talent as a choreographer. In 2005, Miroshnichenko was invited to the New York Choreographic Institute to take part in the spring and autumn sessions where he staged Stravinsky's Songs for the students of the School of American Ballet and Towards "Swan" for the soloists and corps de ballet of the New York City Ballet. In 2006 he took part in the project "Uncontainable" at the Royal Ballet of Flanders.

"Sleeping Beauty" will be performed Saturday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 21 at 2 p.m. Tickets are $32 - $87 and can be purchased at the Auditorium Theatre Box Office at 50 E. Congress Parkway; by calling Ticketmaster at (800) 982-ARTS (2787); or visiting ticketmaster.com auditorium. Call for discount tickets of 10 or more by calling (312)-431-2357.

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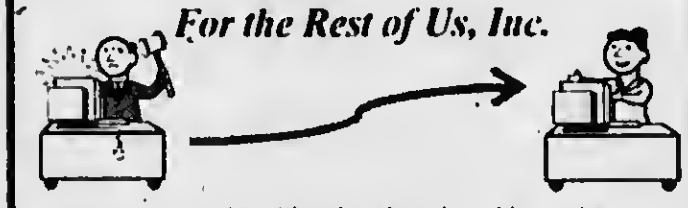

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USDA Addresses Veterinary Shortages with Education Loan Repayment Program

WASHINGTON, Feb 12, 2010 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced today that USDA had taken the first step toward implementing a plan to address veterinary shortages throughout rural America by repaying the student loans of qualified veterinarians in return for their services in areas suffering from a lack of veterinarians

"USDA can help ensure there is a first line of defense against animal diseases across the United States by placing qualified veterinarians in areas where there is a critical need," Vilsack said "This program will help reduce veterinary shortages, especially in the area of food animal medicine, which will reduce stress on producers and improve the health of the livestock industry"

USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) administers the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), which was established in the National Veterinary Medical Services Act of 2003 NIFA issued an interim rule for the program on July 9, 2009 Implementation of the program began on Jan 22, 2010 when NIFA released a Federal Register notice asking for comments and nominations for shortage situations from the chief animal health official from each state and insular area and appropriate federal animal health officials Guidance on what constitutes a shortage situation and nomination forms can be found on the NIFA Web site. Nomination forms are due March 8, and can be returned via email to vmlup@nifa.usda.gov

NIFA will convene a panel of federal and state animal health experts to recommend submitted nomination packages for official designation as a veterinary shortage situation The public will be able to review designated veterinary shortage situations in list and/or map form, along with information describing the nature of the shortage situation

NIFA expects to begin accepting applications from veterinarians wishing to participate in the program on April 30, 2010 In return for a commitment of three years of veterinary services in a designated veterinary shortage area, NIFA may repay up to $25,000 of student loan debt per year Loan repayment benefits are limited to payments of the principal and interest on government and commercial loans received for the attendance at an accredited college of veterinary medicine resulting in a degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine or the equivalent NIFA projects applications will be due June 30, and that offers will be made by September 30

Veterinarians are critical to the national food safety and food security infrastructures, and to the health and well-being of both animals and humans, however, major studies indicate significant and growing shortages of food supply veterinarians and veterinarians serving in certain other high priority specialty areas A leading cause for this shortage is the heavy cost of four years of professional veterinary medical training, which can average between $130,000 and $140,000 Congress established the VMLRP as a way to remedy this growing need

Through federal funding and leadership for research, education and extension programs, NIFA focuses on investing in science and solving critical issues impacting people's daily lives and the nation's future For more information, visit www.nifa.usda.gov

Join MetroSouth Medical Center

Join MetroSouth Medical Center during the month of February for the Know Your Numbers by Heart save your heart program Stop in on the following dates and have a FREE heart-health screening that includes cholesterol screening, blood pressure screening, body mass index and glucose level screening Know your numbers and save your heart

Tuesday, February 23
MetroSouth Health Center at Alsip

Wednesday, February 24
MetroSouth Medical Center Blue Island-Main Lobby

For further information call 708-597-2000

Village of Worth: Worth Days Crafters Needed

The Village for Worth is looking for crafters for the 2010 Worth Days For application information please visit www.villageofworth.com, call 708-448-1181 or email Colleen at cmcelroy@villageofworth.com Worth Days will occur from August 6 through 8th Crafters will be allowed on Saturday and Sunday Spaces are limited so please register early

Crafters Corner

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File No. D1112063S on the 8th Day of February, 2010., Under the Assumed Name of Tokens Only, with the business located at 43 South Woodland Trail Palos Park, IL 60464. The true name(s) and residence address of the owner(s) is:
Christian J Moore
43 South Woodland Trail
Palos Park IL 60464

Congressman Lipinski Announces Oak Lawn Quiet Zone Takes Effect in February

Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-3) announced today that a railroad quiet zone eliminating the sounding of train horns except in emergencies is expected to take effect in Oak Lawn on Feb 17. Congressman Lipinski's work with Metra and the Village of Oak Lawn was key to establishing the quiet zone, which covers all crossings on the Southwest Service line in the village.

"For the people residing along the Southwest line, this quiet zone will bring the most welcome sound of all – the sound of silence," Congressman Lipinski said. "From my own experience growing up, I know the disruptions and inconveniences that come with living near busy train tracks. That's why I continue to work with municipalities, Metra, and the railroads to create quiet zones and find other ways to reduce the impact of trains on neighborhoods."

This is the second time in recent weeks that Congressman Lipinski has helped establish a quiet zone in the Third District. On Jan. 28, a quiet zone took effect on Canadian National Railway's Chicago Central & Pacific line in Riverside, North Riverside, and Berwyn. That quiet zone was the result of Congressman Lipinski working with Canadian National and the three municipalities to develop a plan and work out the funding needed to implement it.

Documentation needed to create the Oak Lawn quiet zone was submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration last week. Provided no unforeseen problems arise, the quiet zone will take effect on Feb. 17. It is important to note that past experience indicates a brief adjustment period of roughly a week may be necessary following that date to achieve full compliance by train operators.

"I would like to thank Congressman Lipinski along with METRA, the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois Commerce Commission, and the Federal Railroad Administration for working so hard with Village officials to secure our community's first quiet zone," Oak Lawn Village Manager Larry Deetjen said. "Noise abatement in a densely populated corridor like Oak Lawn certainly is a long term enhancement of our quality of life. The most successful government programs in America today recognize the need for all levels of government to cooperate from the federal to the local level. The Oak Lawn quiet zone exemplifies this principle."

While the Federal Railroad Administration requires locomotives to sound their horns at public highway-rail grade crossings, communities that meet specific safety criteria can establish quiet zones that ban the use of train horns at crossings except in emergencies. In this case, safety upgrades necessary to establish the zone included new signage, the reconstruction of the barrier median at the Cicero Avenue crossing, and the conversion of the Cook Avenue crossing to a pedestrian-only crossing. The quiet zone also includes one crossing in Hometown.

Acorn Public Library Announces Old Time Radio Program

The Acorn Public Library will host a live performance by the Those Were the Days Radio Players (south chapter) on Thursday, February 18th, 2010 at 7 PM. This popular local group will perform two vintage scripts from the golden age of radio. The two pieces, The Incredible Anna Lee and The Magnificent Montague, Lost in Hollywood, will be executed live in front of the audience, complete with music and sound effects.

Those Were the Days Radio Players was organized in 1992 by radio host Chuck Schaden. There are now six geographically based chapters in the Chicago area. The amateur groups use original scripts of old radio shows to put on a great show before live audiences. The south chapter includes members from Burbank, HazelCrest, Park Forest, Pullman, Lisle, Chicago Heights and Beecher. For more than seventeen years they have performed for libraries, schools, churches, retirement communities and various types of social organizations.

Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in Oak Forest. Interested individuals are encouraged to call (708) 687-3700 to register their attendance. This program is offered free to the public.

St. Gabriel's Class of 1960 50 Year Reunion

Looking for classmates for St. Gabriel's Class of 1960 – 50 Year Reunion.

The Reunion is Saturday April 17, 2010 at the Oak Lawn Hilton.

For Additional information please contact Connie (Dierkhoff) Ahlness at conneahlness@aol.com Or Pam (Fox) Vasil at pamvasil@gmail.com Or Pat Hoffman at mhpcm3@yahoo.com

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Far South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Forest / Orland Park / Tinley Park

Volume 8 Number 4

February 16, 2010

Tinley Park abates tax levy

by Matt Mayer

The village board approved an ordinance at the Jan. 26 Tinley Park Board of Trustees meeting. Which abates all of the 2009 tax levy requirements as provided in the bond order dated December 16, 2009. The 2009 tax levy requirements for this bond issue is established at $1,814,162.58 and the village is in a position to abate the entire amount of the levy from funds derived from the Oak Park Avenue (Convention Center) Tax Incremental Financing district fund and a 35-percent Build America Bond Credit payment to be received from the United States Treasury.

The annual levy requirement provided in the bond order is the gross debt service before reduction for the Build America Bond Credit payment authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) also known as the stimulus package. Under the Bond Order related to this bond issue, the County Clerks are directed to automatically levy specified amounts each year in property taxes to provide for the annual debt service unless those directions are later superseded by the village.

These bonds were issued in late December and did not exist when the tax abatement ordinances were prepared and approved. The tax extension office of the Will County Clerk has already begun its preparation of 2009 levy extensions. In order to avoid complications with the village's 2009 levy extensions and to expedite the filing of this abatement with two county clerks, this item was also discussed at Finance and Economic Development Committee held prior to the board meeting.

Center School 2nd Graders Raise $280 plus for Peace Organization

As part of the study of Dr. Martin Luther King, Center School students and staff participated in the international project Pennies for Peace, which promotes world peace, tolerance, and education. The organization collects funds to help build schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. After just five days of collecting the coins, the school was able to donate $282.45.

Meadow Ridge School also celebrated good behavior with a pancake breakfast. Meadow Ridge students have one more reason to be on their best behavior in school. Those who did not receive an office referral in the second quarter of the school year were rewarded with a pancake breakfast. Principal Kathy Carroll says the breakfast has been a successful motivation tool, with students eager to attend the special morning program of pancakes, fruit, juice and time to socialize with friends. The school's staff committee for increasing good student behavior took the program a step further this year by adding a writing contest. Students were offered a different prompt per grade level all themed around pancakes. In addition to having one winner per grade level, the class with the greatest number of participants will receive an extra recess.

Century Jr. High EarlyAct Club made blankets for Project Linus recently. Students in the Century Jr. High EarlyAct club make 14 blankets for Project Linus. The mission of Project Linus is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans created by volunteer "blanketeers." The EarlyAct club is a service-oriented partnership between the school and the Orland Park Rotary Club. Student Kristina Lauko notes, "I joined EarlyAct because I love to help the community and it's a lot of fun. With the blanket project, we were able to help kids and learn how to make blankets. It is a great thing to do."

A group of Meadow Ridge students pause for a picture during the school's pancake breakfast, which was a reward for good behavior.

"Orphans" Caroline Kohler, Colleen Innis and Natalie Thompson of Orland Park, Rebecca Senick of Tinley Park, and Emily Bilecki of Orland Hills rehearse the song "You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile"

It's a "Hard Knock Life" for CJB's Children of Genesius

Depression-era New York City will be the setting when the theater troupe of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School takes the stage this month to present "Annie, Jr."

"I couldn't be more excited about our tenth annual production," said Candi Hohner, 3rd grade teacher and the director of CJB's drama program. "Each year the children work even harder to surpass our expectations."

The theater troupe is named after St. Genesius, patron saint of the arts. This year over 90 talented student actors and crew members have rehearsed for three months under the direction of Hohner, assistant directors Julie Martin and Mary Beth Lawton, and musical director Christina Eubank.

"Cardinal Bernardin School is lucky to have so many dedicated staff members and parents who are willing to support our efforts," noted Hohner. "We also have been blessed with an administration that values and celebrates the arts."

"Annie, Jr." will be presented on February 27 and 28 at Victor J. Andrew High School in Tinley Park. For ticket information, call Cardinal Bernardin School at 403-6525.

Chicago Bulls to Host " Orland Park Night"

Discounted Tickets Available for Saturday Night Game

The Chicago Bulls will host "Orland Park Night" on Saturday, March 27 when the Bulls take on the New Jersey Nets at the United Center , 1901 West Madison Street in Chicago .

"The Chicago Bulls contacted the village to ask if we'd like to host an 'Orland Park Night' at an upcoming game," said Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin.

"This is a nice way for those who can't afford to pay full price to go to a game," McLaughlin added.

Tickets normally costing $70 for rows 1 to 7 of the 300 level are available for $35. Those in rows 8 to 17, which normally cost $46, are available for $23.

Discounted Orland Park Night tickets are not limited to those who live or work in Orland Park

"This is open to everyone," the mayor said. "We're encouraging those who live and work in Orland Park to share the information with family and friends. Everyone's invited," McLaughlin added.

To order tickets on line without service or handling fees, fans can visit www.bulls.com/orlandpark.

Or, tickets may be ordered by fax or mail by downloading an order form from the document center on the village's website at www.orland-park.il.us.

Tickets are subject to availability and Chicago Bulls personnel encourage fans to buy tickets early. Attendees must provide their own transportation and tickets are not refundable.

Orland Park has scheduled its 2010 Grand Slam Event with the Chicago White Sox. Discounted tickets will be available for the 7:10 p.m. game on Wednesday, July 7 against the Los Angeles Angels. Ticket order forms will be available after opening day.

E-mail address: vnew (a.sbcglobal.net

South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Volume 11 Number 4

February 16, 2010

Palos Park to construct Water Reservoir

by Matt Mayer

The Palos Park Village Board approved a contract at the Feb 8, Board of Trustees meeting for a 500,000-gallon water reservoir with Ary's of Tinley Park for $2,073,141.00. The bid includes the construction of the reservoir as well as cleaning the existing system and rehabilitation of the existing underground drainage and mixer system.

Officials said that the project has been in the planning stage for the past two years - the money to fund the project will be derived from the general fund. In October 2008 the village implemented a $6.50 monthly surcharge on resident's water bills to help pay for the reservoir and the village has already been issued a $2 million - 20 year bond to pay for the project.

Mayor John Mahoney said the lack of density in the village equates to paying more than most communities due to the village having 52 miles of water main and only 1,900 users to pay for it. The village is mandated by Chicago and Oak Lawn to construct the additional reservoir in order to hold two days of water storage in the event of an emergency. The village has also applied for a lower bond interest rate from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Construction on the underground water reservoir is slated to begin in March and expected to last 27 weeks. The reservoir will be located at 121st Street and Southwest Highway behind the Post Office.

Moraine Valley spring enrollment sets record

Moraine Valley Community College's 2010 spring semester set a record high enrollment with 19,813 students, exceeding the 19,000 mark for the third consecutive semester.

The 2010 spring enrollment is 3.5 percent higher than a year ago, and the total number of credit hours—161,126—rose 6.7 percent compared with last spring. The 2009 fall semester held the previous record high enrollment with 19,071 students. Spring enrollment has increased 15 percent over the past five years.

"We are pleased that an increasing number of community members chose Moraine Valley this spring and that we continue to be their college of choice," Dr. Vernon O. Crawley, college president, said. "We provide an accessible and affordable learning environment that promotes quality in education and outstanding service. We have an excellent faculty and staff whose top priority is student success."

Students enrolled in the college transfer program make up 56 percent of the enrollment while career program students account for 36 percent. Thirty-eight percent of the students are enrolled full-time. Eighty-six percent of the students live within the college district and 53 percent of the students are women. The average age is 25 years old.

Factors contributing to the high enrollment include the poor economy and job market. "Many of our community members are critically aware that they need a college education to give them a broader array of choices in their career fields and good paying jobs," Dr. Crawley said. Also playing a key role, he said, is the increasing tuition costs at four-year private and public colleges and universities. "Our students know that they can receive a quality education at a much more affordable cost than at four-year institutions."

For more information, call Mark Horstmeyer, director of College and Community Relations, at (708) 974-5275, or e-mail: horstmeyer@morainevalley.edu.

SWSRA, walk, run or roll for charity

Show your support for South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA), a non-profit organization that provides recreational services for individuals with special needs, by becoming a Charity Runner! All you have to do is receive pledges (contact SWSRA for a pledge sheet) and then register for the Palos Bank Southwest Half Marathon at www.palosbankhalfmarathon.com. You will be prompted by a drop down window asking how you heard about this event; please select South West Special Recreation Association. All proceeds will benefit SWSRA services!

The Palos Bank Southwest Half Marathon will be held on Sunday, May 2nd, at 7:30 a.m., at Palos Heights City Hall, just west of Route 83 and 76th Avenue. If you are interested in becoming a Charity Runner or for more information, please contact the SWSRA office at (708) 389-9423.

Join South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) on Sunday, May 2nd, 2010, for the fun and exciting 2nd Annual Walk, Run or Roll 1/2 Mile Race! This race is specifically designed so that individuals with special needs, age 8 and older, can participate in a community event that is held in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Palos Bank Southwest Half Marathon. The Walk, Run or Roll race will begin at 7:30 a.m. at Palos Heights City Hall, just west of Route 83 and 76th Avenue.

Completed registrations, medical forms and waivers must be submitted by Wednesday, April 28, 2010 in order to compete in the event. Forms may be picked up at the SWSRA office, 12521 S. Kostner Ave. in Alsip, or may be downloaded at www.swsra.com.

SWSRA asks that all participating athletes be checked in by 7:00 a.m. The fee is $15 dollars per athlete and includes a t-shirt and participation medal. A "buddy" is allowed to assist an athlete for free and may purchase a "buddy" t-shirt for $5.00.

For more information, please contact the SWSRA office at (708) 389-9423.

Genworth saves homes from foreclosure at record pace

More than 5,200 workouts, $596 million worth of mortgages saved

Genworth Financial, Inc. (GNW: NYSE) a leading mortgage insurer, helped save $596,085,836 worth of mortgages from foreclosure in the Central region of the U.S. in the 12 months ending December 31, 2009, according to its quarterly Foreclosure Prevention Scorecard, released today. Working with its lender partners and servicers, Genworth helped complete 5,276 mortgage workouts during the period, a new record for the company's homeowner assistance program.

Eighty-four percent of the workouts were considered a "cure," meaning the borrower was able to save their home and become current on their mortgage. The remaining 16 percent were able to avoid foreclosure through a "non-cure" workout. Nearly one in 10 borrowers saved benefited from the Treasury Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP), accounting for $73,500,000 mortgage dollars saved.

"The number of homeowners needing help is growing, and we're working hard to keep them in their homes. Most people think mortgage insurance only helps you buy a home sooner, but its benefits go far beyond making a low down payment possible," said Alan Goldberg, director of Strategic Loss Initiatives for Genworth's U.S. mortgage insurance business. "We're working across the industry to implement programs like HAMP and others that will help struggling homeowners in the Central region make it through these difficult financial times."

The states in order of mortgage dollars saved for the region, were: Texas ($165,839,023); Illinois ($130,704,611) Michigan ($81,272,090); Minnesota ($50,076,041); Missouri ($47,287,807); Wisconsin ($28,901,124); Kansas ($23,039,954); Oklahoma ($19,509,806); Arkansas ($18,129,403); Iowa ($17,448,827); Nebraska ($9,004,820); South Dakota ($3,778,544) and North Dakota ($1,093,786).

The average amount saved per workout was $103,568.

Loan modifications accounted for 39 percent of Genworth's workouts in the Central region, followed by repayment (30 percent), short sale (14 percent), HAMP (9 percent), HomeSaver Advance™ (8 percent) and deed in lieu (1 percent).

The Scorecard, based on Genworth's loss mitigation efforts, lists data for the company's four U.S. regions (Southeast, Pacific, Northeast and Central). The Northeast region led the United States with $773,334,780 mortgage dollars saved, followed by the Southeast ($697,707,645), Central ($596,085,836) and Pacific ($578,087,572) regions.

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B-MAC EDITION

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 Number 4

February 16, 2010

Alsip approves TIF study and ordinance

by Matt Mayer

The village board at the Feb. 1 Alsip Board of Trustees meeting approved a request for the village to conduct a feasibility study regarding the designation of a property area as a Tax Increment Financing redevelopment project area as well as an ordinance to authorize the establishment of a tax increment financing, "interested parties" registry and registration rules regarding the registry.

A TIF district uses tax revenues to finance improvements within the district and is also free from local taxing bodies such as libraries and schools. The property tax within a TIF is frozen at the current amount prior to redevelopment; municipalities are also allowed to offer incentives to attract businesses. The maximum life of a TIF is 23 years.

Other highlights: Police Sgt. Durkin presented the Alsip Police Department's Crime Free Housing Gold Certificate to the management team of Summerset Apartments - this is the first apartment complex to achieve this special designation. An ordinance amending an article and chapter and a section of the village municipal code regarding flea market fees, produce and food was approved. A request from the Chamber of Commerce to place portable signs in front of Prairie Jr. High School and the Chamber office at 12159 S. Pulaski Avenue from Feb. 22-Feb 15 to advertise the Chamber's Community Expo on Feb. 27 was approved. A request to go out to bid for a roofing project at Heritage I Senior Apartments was also approved.

The board concurred with the Jan. 25 committee meeting and approved entering with the U.S. Census bureau the agreement allows the Census Bureau to use village facilities for a questioner assistance center 3 day's a week for a total of 15 hours per week, from Feb. 26-April 19. And the census bureau will provide the staffing.

Blue Island Library Celebrates Casimir Pulaski, St. Patrick's Day

On Tuesday Evening, March 2nd at 7:00 pm, the Blue Island Library is throwing a party, a Polka Party, in honor of Casimir Pulaski, the Polish Military Officer who helped the American Colonies win freedom from the English Crown. The special guests will be the Legendary Eddie Korosa Jr. and his band, "The Boys from Illinois".

Korosa began to play Polka music with his dad, Eddie Korosa Sr., America's "Prince of Polkas", when he was 7 years old and was a regular on the Emmy nominated television show, "Eddie Korosa's Polka Party". He has worked with Bobby Vinton and Frankie Yankovic, performed for Pope John Paul II on his visit to Chicago and was part of John Candy's Polka Band in the hit movie "Home Alone". The United Polka Association Voted him "Accordion Player of the Year"! So, its time to "Roll out the Barrel" and "Get Your Polka Thang Go'in" for a great evening of fun!

The show will be held in the Gym of Christ Memorial Church, 2440 York in Blue Island.

The library will also celebrate St Patrick's Day with an evening of Irish Music on Wednesday evening, March 10th at 7:00 pm with "An Irish Evening" featuring the music of the Midwest's premier Celtic Harpist, Aislinn and her Ensemble.

Aislinn learned to play under classic Celtic harpers Michael Rooney, Janet Harbison, and Grainne Hambly in the United States and Fionnuala Rooney while studying Irish culture, music, and dance at the University of Limerick in Ireland. She has performed on Irish and American radio shows such as "Céili House", "A Feast of Irish Folk" and "Reilly's Pint of Ale" and with the popular Irish groups "Anam Ri", "Cé" and the "Karen Casey Band". She is a favorite at both the Milwaukee and Chicago Celtic Fests and loves "sitting in on" traditional Irish music sessions throughout the Chicago area when her schedule permits. Currently, Aislinn is working on an album and hoping to again visit Ireland to perform and teach the Celtic harp.

The Concert will be held in the Christ Memorial Church, 2440 York in Blue Island. Tickets are required and free for both celebrations at the Library's Main Desk, 2433 York in Blue Island. For information, or to seek an accommodation, call Dan Carroll 1-708-388-1078 X 30

8th Annual Summit Awards Breakfast

The South Suburban Small Business Association presents Paul V. La Schiazza, President of AT&T Illinois is scheduled to discuss "Wireless Technology: Changing Your World." Emerging technology is about to change your world. Should you care? Learn how "being connected" will-and is already -impacting your business and personal life.

-Members - free, non-members - $5. Please call 708-596-2000 ext. 2568 today to register. Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2010, 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Location: Double Tree Hotel - Alsip, 5000 W. 127th St.

19th Annual Parent Institute Day

Good Shepherd Center is proud to present the largest bi-lingual conference in the Chicago area for parents, educators, healthcare and childcare workers. The 19th Annual Parent Institute Day Conference will be held on Friday, March 26th, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Prairie State College, in Chicago Heights . This event provides the support needed to assist children to be strong and confident in today's world. Forty individual workshops in English and Spanish include behavioral issues, bullying, health and wellness, attitude, special needs, educational issues, dating, parenting and family, discipline, disability information and much more. The Keynote Speaker for the English program is psychologist Dr. John Farrell , presenting on the best selling book "The Five Love Languages of Children" by Gary Chapman . The Keynote Speaker for the Spanish program is Dr. Juan Andrade , Jr. , President of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute, presenting on "Living in a Diverse World."

Some comments from the attendees at last year's conference: "Wonderful," Candice from Orland Park . "I learned a lot about interacting with my teenager and found many parents were dealing with the same issues I was," Georgia from Park Forest . "My passion for working with children was rejuvenated I'll definitely be back next year," Alana from Blue Island.

Registration cost for the conference is $35 per person by March 15th and $40 beginning March 16th. This includes a continental breakfast and choice of lunch. CEU, CPDU, DCFS and EI continuing education credits will be available. On-line registration is encouraged at www.gscenter.org or registrants may call 708-957-2600 x 227, Prairie State College is located at 202 S. Halsted Street , Chicago Heights . For information on vendor space at the conference please call 708-335-0020 x 20. Space is limited and is on a first come first serve basis.

The 19th Annual Parent Institute Day is hosted by Good Shepherd Center . Good Shepherd Center is a non-profit 501 c ,3 organization that has been serving individuals with disabilities and their families since 1963. Located in Hazel Crest, Good Shepherd Center 's large service area covers all of south suburban Cook and northern Will counties. Good Shepherd Center provides various pediatric therapies, in-home respite care, day care support and childcare trainings and community resources. Event Sponsors of the 19th Annual Parent Institute Day Conference are The Chicago Community Trust, SouthtownStar, Nicor , Illinois Action for Children, Prairie State College and Family Time Magazine.

Midlothian kids create holiday masks

The Midlothian Public Library held mask making activities for children last Wednesday in the spirit of Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras and Black History Month. Samantha, pictured above, created an artistic lion mask.

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VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Lawn Burbank Hickory Hills Evergreen Park

Volume 36 Number 17

March 2, 2010

Bridgeview Public Library offers variety of events

Join us on Saturday, March 6th for our final presentation of the Chicago Lyric Opera Lecture Series Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" Sublime music, wry comedy and penetrating reflections on life and love – Mozart gets everything right in one of Western civilization's greatest artistic achievements And it's fun too! Figaro, the count's whip-smart valet, is set to marry Susanna, the Countess's comely maid But the Count wants Susanna for himself! Enter Figaro with a scheme that outs him off at the pass and teaches everyone a lesson! The lecture will be given by Charles De Witt. Please call (708) 458-2880 ext 105 and ask for Margaret to register This event starts at 2:00 PM

Japanese Tea Ceremony Saturday, March 20th, starting at 2:00 PM The Japanese tea ceremony is a traditional ritual influenced by Zen Buddhism in which powdered green tea is ceremonially prepared by a skilled practitioner and served to a small group in a tranquil setting The demonstration will be presented by Akemi Nakano Gohn and members of the Chicago Chapter of the Urasenke school in Kyoto , Japan During these gatherings, a small number of individuals would be invited to enjoy the hospitality of the host and discuss the objects on display in a calm setting, leaving the concerns of daily life behind

Join us on Saturday March 13th for a presentation of "Miss Nelson is Missing" put on by the Children's Theatre of Western Springs This starts at 2:00 PM

Don't forget to sign-up for the spring session of all story times, Arabic classes and much more A calendar of events is available in the Children's department of the library

We will be holding our 1st Scholastic Book Fair to help raise funds for our Summer Reading programs The book fair will be held on Thursday March 25th thru Saturday March 27th during regular library hours

Also on Saturday March 27th will be our Spring Fling with the Easter Bunny from 10-1 PM

All children's events do require registration Please call (708)-458-2880 ext 106 to sign-up

Hometown-Murray VFW St. Patrick's Dinner

Hometown-Murray VFW Post #9773, is having their annual St Patrick's Dinner, 4pm till 8pm, Saturday, March 13, 2010, at the Post home, 9092 Main St., Hometown, IL 60456. - For $8.00 per person you will get a 'home cooked' Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner with Carrots and Potatoes, or a Corned Beef Sandwich on Rye w/ Chips and Pickle.-$6.00 per person Coffee and Dessert Table. Dine-In or Carry Out- Call 708-422-9800 after 3pm for more info.

Peace senior honored with Woman of Purpose Award

For the 32nd consecutive year, hundreds of Catholic school students gathered for a Special Mass on Feb 4 at Holy Name Cathedral to celebrate African American Heritage Month and the fifth Kwanzaa principle NIA, or purpose Queen of Peace senior Megan Graves(pictured above), of Oak Lawn, was among those honored at the service with the NIA Woman of Purpose Award Ten Peace students, along with campus minister Kathleen Grennan, also attended the Mass that featured traditional African drumming and liturgical dancing.

Other honorees included political activist and community leader Timmel Black and TV broadcast legend Merri Dee Because of their many accomplishments, Graves, who plans to study theology at Dominican University, said she felt a little intimidated about receiving her medal

"It was a real honor to stand up with everyone who has had such an impact on the community," Graves said "I didn't feel I could live up to their standards When I get to their ages I hope to have had an impact like they did"

Even at the age of 17 Graves exemplifies Peace' Dominican values, especially this year's focused value of community

Graves is involved in Peace Ambassadors, Student Council, Dominican Preachers, Human Rights Task Force, Chamber Singers and Tri M, Music Honor Society She is president of Spanish National Honor Society, and the weekend after being honored at the heritage Mass led a VERITAS retreat for the second time

"I like doing service, it's a little way of Jesus Christ's hands working through mine," Graves said

Evergreen Park Bond Rating

Mayor James J Sexton announced today that the Village of Evergreen Park has received a long term rating of "AA" from Standard & Poor's Rating Services The rating of the Village was upgraded based upon its stable outlook and good management practices The "AA" rating is the second highest credit rating for governmental entities and is a great accomplishment for the Village The "AA" rating of Evergreen Park is higher than any neighboring municipality.

Mayor Sexton stated that S&P considered the Village's financial management practices and determined that the outlook for the Village is stable Receiving a "AA" rating reflects the excellent management in the Village Unlike other municipalities, Evergreen Park does not have a full time manager or administrator, does not have a finance director, and does not have a full time treasurer The Mayor stated that the Village has run very frugally with staffing levels that have always been kept to a minimum The Mayor thanked all of the department heads of the Village for their focus on maintaining services while trying to keep expenses to a minimum

The upgrade to the "AA" rating will save the Village hundreds of thousands of dollars with respect to new bonds which it is issuing and will allow the Village to issue bonds without paying for bond insurance. Mayor Sexton emphasized that the commercial development in the Village, including that the intersection of 95th Street and Kedzie Avenue, the Wal Mart store, and the new Pete's Fresh Market, evidence the strong economics of the Village All of these businesses help provide revenue to balance the budget and provide services to the residents

Hickory Hills Park District announces renovation project

The Hickory Hills Park District is renovating and expanding Krueger Park Recreation Center Preliminary drawings have been considered which include a renovation and or expansion of the fitness center, activity room, storage and office space The project is estimated at $1.8 million Construction will begin in the summer or fall of 2010 The project will be complete in 2011 just in time to celebrate the district's 50th Anniversary.

For more information, call 708-598-1233 or visit our website at www.hhparkdistrict.org

Homemade Chocolate Delights is a chocolate lover's dream class In this class you'll learn how to properly melt chocolate and make a variety of chocolate candies Samples of all candies will be available to take home This class will be held Tuesday, March 9th from 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. at Cynthia Neal Center , 8017 W. 91st Place Ages 7 – 11 years Fee: $17 Resident, $19 Non Resident.

Prepare For Babysitting class teaches the basic of infant care, babysitting techniques, and step-by-step instruction of what to do in an emergency. In order to receive your certificate, you must attend both classes Classes are Saturday, March 6 & 13 at the Roberts Park Fire Department, 8611 S. Roberts Road from 9:00 am – 12:00 p.m. Fee: $6 Resident, $7 Non Resident

Shooting Stars is a 5 week class that is perfect for the future basketball star. By doing simple drills, kids will become familiar with passing, dribbling, shooting and basic rules of the game Teamwork, good sportsmanship, and fun are all stressed in this exciting class. This class meets on Tuesday, March 2 – March 30 from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center . Age: 8 – 12 years Fee: $23 Resident, $28 Non Resident.

Call the park district office at 598-1233 or visit our website at www.hhparkdistrict.org for more information

What Presidential Healthcare Reform means to you

By Jane M. Orient, M.D.

Three days before the Feb 25 media event, where chosen representatives can say their last words before the nuclear option is set off, The President's Proposal on "healthcare reform" was released.

These 11 pages do not start with a blank sheet of paper, as Republicans recommended, but with the 2,000-page Senate bill. They are getting a disproportionate amount of commentary, but amount to little difference.

The $100 billion added to the price tag, the total net worth of 100,000 millionaires, is but one-tenth of the total $1 trillion. This is not real money residing in a Lock Box in Washington, or even in the bank accounts of currently living taxpayers. It will be created out of nothing, so lack of a Congressional Budget Office pronouncement on it doesn't matter much.

The Proposal adds explicit taxes on the "rich"—such as expanding the Medicare levy to capital income as well as earned income—and tweaks the tax-equivalents on the middle class.

The House, Senate, and President set different income thresholds and percentage of income that people will have to pay in premiums for their mandated Health Plan. This is a low wage trap: if your earnings exceed a certain threshold, all of you extra income will be sucked into the Health Plan. That is like a 100% marginal tax rate. For some people, the marginal tax will be greater than 100%. That means that the more you earn, the less you take home.

What you will get in return is all the health care the Secretary of HHS, or appointed bureaucrats, decide you should have—assuming it is available. Remember that this is not about expanding medical care. The reformers think that we already get 30% too much. It is about reducing gaps and disparities.

The Secretary is to set standards to "enable determination of an individual's eligibility and financial responsibility for specific services prior to or at the point of service," according to the Senate bill.

A sophisticated computer infrastructure can keep track of eligibility, to assure fairness. The computer can tell whether your ethnic group, your region, or your age group has already had its fair share of knee replacements, CT scans, coronary artery stents, and so on.

Price controls reduce spending by creating scarcity of supply. The President's Proposal adds price controls for insurance premiums. Yes, you can keep your plan—if it still exists.

And you can keep your doctor—if he's still in practice. The President's Proposal could preemptively exclude doctors deemed to be "potentially fraudulent providers." Or it may drive them out of business by aggressively "recovering overpayments" and levying huge penalties for billing errors or "unnecessary services"—now called "waste, fraud, or abuse."

A survey by Investor's Business Daily suggested that under Obamacare, 15% of doctors would quit. It wasn't a scientific survey, and people don't necessarily do what they say. Maybe only 30% would quit, just as millions more people are demanding service. In a recent informal survey by the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS), fewer than 30% of physicians said they would voluntarily participate in a public plan similar to Medicare.

Many potential doctors are quitting before they start. Two thirds of respondents to the AAPS survey said they were not advising their children to go to medical school.

Doctors who remain may restrict their practice to giving Botox injections. But even those signed up with your Plan might be doing something besides taking care of you. Dealing with the government-imposed computerized record might take up 25% or more of the doctor's time. Then there's time spent collecting information pertaining to eligibility (such as your exact ethnic group and lifestyle), documenting the mandated wellness checks, and providing the services that improve the doctor's quality measures.

A new favorite word seems to be "strengthen," which means increasing the power of government.

It's all part of Change—truly radical, redistributive change—from confidential sickness care by highly trained physicians trying to heal individuals, to public "health care" by minimally trained "providers" trying to regiment and level society.

Once it is done, could it ever be undone?

Credit card reform goes live

By Jason Alderman

One major piece of legislation President Obama signed last year was the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility and Disclosure (CARD) Act, which made fundamental changes to credit card agreements. Some provisions were adopted last summer, but the bulk of them took effect February 22, 2010.

Here's an overview of a few major changes:

Restrictions on interest rate increases. The annual percentage rate (APR) for interest on new credit card accounts cannot be increased during the first year unless:

- A clearly disclosed introductory period (teaser rate) ends, also, such introductory periods now must be at least six months long;

- It's a variable rate (vs. fixed rate) card and the APR is tied to an index that increases (e.g., U.S. Treasuries);

- You enter a debt repayment workout plan and don't comply with its terms; or

- You are over 60 days late making at least the minimum monthly payment. Note: the new rules say the previous APR must be restored after you've made six months of on-time payments.

More advance notice. After the first year, banks and credit unions that issue credit cards may raise the APR on new transactions, or make other significant account changes, only after providing 45 days' advance notice. Also, you must be given an opportunity to cancel the card before these changes take effect and pay off the balance at the old rate.

Interest rate review. Every six months, card issuers must review accounts whose interest rates were increased based on market conditions, cardholder creditworthiness or other factors, and, if warranted, they must reduce the rate or provide written notice why the increase should still apply. (Effective August 22, 2010.)

Bill and payment timing. Credit card statements must be mailed at least 21 days before the balance is due. Also, payments must be credited as on-time if received by 5 p.m. on the due date.

Order of balances paid. When one card carries balances at different interest rates – such as one rate for purchases and another for balance transfers – payments must be applied to the highest rate balance first.

Enhanced statements. Credit card statements must clearly post how much you've paid in interest and fees for the year, the upcoming due date and potential late fees, and how long it would take to pay off your bill making minimum payments – including total interest charges.

A few other highlights:

- Over the limit fees cannot be charged unless you have previously agreed (opted in) to allow charges over your credit limit.

- You cannot be charged additional fees for paying your bill online or by phone.

- Card issuers may no longer factor in average daily balances from a previous billing cycle that wasn't fully paid off when calculating current interest charges (otherwise known as "double cycle billing").

People under 21 must have an adult co-signer in order to open an account unless they can prove their ability to repay their account balance.

To learn more about particular changes to your credit card agreements, contact the bank or credit union issuing your card, or visit www.fdic.gov. In addition, always read mailings from issuers to ensure you're up to date on any account changes.

Diapers for Haitian children

The Tinley Park Public Library will accept donations of diapers in any size for the children in Haiti. Diapers are being donated and transported to hospitals and sites in Haiti by NPH Friends of the Orphans. We will accept donations from March 1, 2010 through May 29, 2010 during our regular business hours. For more diaper donations information please contact Marian Bode at bodemarian@yahoo.com. For information about the library hours or directions, please call 708-532-0160, x 3. The library is located at 7851 Timber Drive. Our website is www.tplibrary.org.

Rep. Chellie Pingree to discuss Public Option before Obama Health Care Summit

New Illinois poll numbers on Dick Durbin and Public Option will be discussed. Momentum builds as 24th Senator signs on in support of public option.

Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME) will join representatives of the Progressive Change Campaign Committee and Democracy for America on a press call calling to discuss public option strategy 45 minutes in advance of Thursday's White House health care summit.

A new Research 2000 Illinois poll shows local voters hate the current Senate bill, overwhelmingly support the public option, and want Sen. Durbin to fight harder for the public option.

In the House, the Polis-Pingree letter garnered 120 signatures in one week for passing the public option through reconciliation. This past week, 24 senators signed Sen. Michael Bennet's (D-CO) letter calling for the public option. www.WhipCongress.com

Who: Congresswoman Chellie Pingree, leaders from Democracy for America and the Progressive Change Campaign Committee

When: 9:45 am EST

Call-in Number: 1-800-895-1241

Conference ID: "OPTION"

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnews@sbcglobal.net

Owner Editor Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnews@sbcglobal.net

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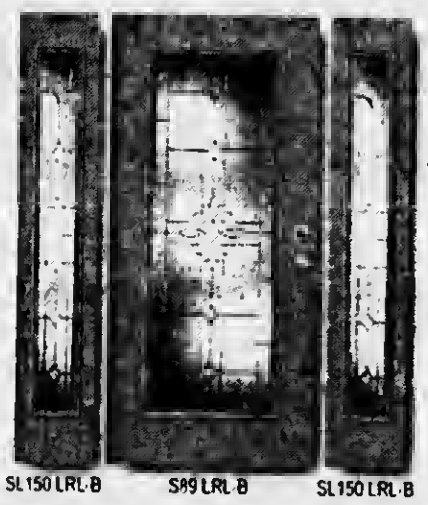

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Rising costs for seniors in 2010 resources are available to help pay for senior care expenses

How much does it cost to grow old in the United States? Many people look forward to retiring with a healthy savings account and dream of spending their days traveling and spending time with their grandchildren. But as seniors are living longer – the average life expectancy in 2010 is 78 - they are also becoming financially vulnerable when it comes to their ability to meet essential expenses and cover projected costs over their lifetimes.

"Some seniors are faced with a growing financial gap between income and basic needs," said Allen Hager, CEO and founder of Right at Home, an international provider of in-home care with 175 locations across the U.S., United Kingdom and Brazil. "However, there are resources available to help seniors continue to live independently."

Rising Costs Seniors and their loved ones are dealing with the rising costs of food, housing, transportation and healthcare. While the average Social Security benefit for a couple is $21,569 per year, basic living expenses exceed an average of $31,000 per year.

Rising healthcare costs are a main concern for seniors. Research has shown that Medicare covers only about half of a senior's medical expenses, contrary to the common belief that Medicare will cover most costs. Seniors spend more on out-of-pocket healthcare expenses than any other age group and their spending is more than double the average of non-elderly adults, according to the National Center for Policy Analysis. Seniors, ages 65 and older, spend an average of $4,888 annually for deductibles, co-payments, premiums and other healthcare expenses not covered by insurance.

Many seniors also must deal with the costs of home care, assisted living, or nursing homes. The costs associated with senior care can vary greatly depending on the number of hours of service needed each day or week, where you are located in the country and the level of services you need. According to a recent survey by MetLife, the hourly rates of home health aide workers and respite care providers range from $8 to $10 per hour. Monthly costs vary widely because of the varying time periods that someone may need care. For example, some people use home care a few hours a day while others use home care around the clock. Cost can also vary depending on the services utilized in your home. The cost of assisted living facilities ranges from $850 to $4,000 per month, while the average cost for a private room in a nursing home is $6,400 per month.

Available Resources There are many options and tools available to help seniors pay for these necessary expenses. One option is the purchase of long term care insurance.

Long term care insurance can be an important investment in your future, but it's very important to have all of the facts before you buy.

Another option to pay for costs associated with aging is a reverse mortgage, which allows homeowners ages 62 or older to access the equity they have in their home. The lender makes payments to you, the homeowner, not the opposite way.

The money that is accessed can be used to make improvements and modifications for safety and accessibility, pay for home care needs or a variety of other expenses. The funds you receive are likely to be tax-free and will not affect Social Security payments or Medicare benefits.

The Veteran's Aid and Attendance Benefit is available to help Veterans and their surviving spouses pay for home care and other care services. The assistance is a benefit paid in addition to monthly pension to those who require the regular attendance of another person to assist in bathing, dressing, meal preparation, medication monitoring or other various activities of daily living. This benefit is available to individuals who reside in assisted living communities, personal care homes, skilled nursing facilities and those receiving personal in-home care. Contact Right at Home of Orland Park http://www.orlandpark.rightathome.net at 708.873.9007

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Oak Forest annual St. Patrick Fleadh held between 151st and 159th and Cicero

The Oak Forest Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the City of Oak Forest, will host the 1st Annual Oak Forest Fleadh (pronounced "Flah") on Saturday, March 13 on Cicero Avenue between 151st Street and 159th Street.

The Fleadh – Gaelic for "festival" – will include a 5K race, open bike ride, family parade, customer appreciation celebrations, and the 2nd annual pub and restaurant open house. Family Parade The parade will kick off at 11 a.m. from 151st Street and travel along Cicero Avenue to 159th Street. Families, businesses and community, school and religious groups are invited to participate in the parade.

Please see registration form below. Customer Appreciation Celebrations Participating businesses are inviting residents and customers to park their cars, watch the parade, and enjoy refreshments and entertainment from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open Bike Ride Cicero Avenue from 151st Street to 159th Street will be open to bike enthusiasts of all ages between 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The Active Transportation Alliance – Chicagoland's voice for better biking, walking and transit – will be at the event to promote biking through handouts, giveaways and activities. Fleadh 5K National City is sponsoring a 5K race in Midlothian Meadows (northeast corner of 159th Street and Cicero Avenue) at 9 a.m.

For more details or to register, visit www.signmenp.com. 2nd Annual Pub and Restaurant Open House A free shuttle bus will take participants to local pubs and restaurants offering food and drink specials and free entertainment from 5 p.m. to 3 a.m.

The shuttle's last stop will be the Best Western Oak Forest Hotel, which is offering special rates for open house participants.

Hickory Hills Park District presents Children's programs

Get your hands dirty and have fun in the Slime and Grime class. We will make a variety of ooey and gooey creations each week from play dough and paints to silly putty and slime. This class is for children 2 ½ - 4 years old. Classes are held on Wednesdays, March 17 – April 28 from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center, 9100 S. 88th Ave. Fee: Resident $27; Non-Resident $32.

We've cooked up some great recipes in the Chef of the Future class. Every week we will make a different treat to enjoy. This class is for children 3 – 5 years old. Classes are held on Wednesdays, March 17 – April 28 from 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center. Fee: $33 Resident; $38 Non Resident.

Just For Me is a class designed to ease separation fears and encourage independence. Children will have fun on their own in a semi-structured environment, building blocks, coloring and creating crafts. This class is for children 2 – 3 years old. Classes are held on Thursdays, March 18 – April 29 from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center. Fee: $23 Resident; $28 Non Resident.

Calling all Young Olympians! Each week children will enjoy a different sport such as soccer, kickball, basketball and more. This class is for children 3 – 5 years old. Classes are held on Thursdays, March 18 – April 29 from 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center. Fee: $22 Resident; $27 Non-Resident.

Dress for the mess in the "Art"ragious Fun class. We will be painting with marbles, squishing shaving cream between our fingers and making unforgettable table creations. This class is for children 2 ½ - 4 years old. Classes are held on Thursdays, March 18 – April 29 from 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. Fee: Resident $25, Non Resident $30.

Friday frolics is a class designed for children ages 2 ½ - 5 years old. This is an opportunity for moms, dads, and caregivers to get a head start on their weekend errands. Children will have fun playing a variety of games. Classes are held Fridays, March 19 – May 7 from 9:15 – 10:45 a.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center.

Fee: Resident $39; Non-Resident $44.

For more information, call 708-598-1233 or visit www.hhparkdistrict.org

Worth Township Senior announces programs for seniors

The Worth Township Senior Oil Painting Class will be starting again on March 12, 2010. The classes are held on Fridays from 9:00am to 12:00 noon at the Worth Township Center, 11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip. The class will run for 12 weeks and there will be a nominal fee. To register for the class, please call (708) 371-2900 Ext 28

The Worth Township Senior Room will be offering an Exercise Class. It will start March 10, 2010 and it will be held on Wednesdays from 10:30 am to 11:15 am There will be a nominal fee. The classes will be held in the Worth Township Center, 11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip Please call (708) 371-2900, Ext 28 if you are interested in this class.

Military News

Army Pvt. Michael R. Kalis has graduated from the Basic Field Artillery Cannon Crewmember Advanced Individual Training course at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

He is the son of Cindy Kalis of Terry Lane, Oak Forest, Ill. Kalis is a 2007 graduate of Tinley Park High School.

Army Pvt. Jacob J. Andruk graduated from the Field Artillery Automated Tactical Data Systems Specialist Advanced Individual Training course at Fort Sill, Lawton, Oklahoma. Andruk is the son of Mark A. Dantone and Melissa L. Andruk of S. Natoma Ave., Oak Lawn, Ill. Army Pvt. Jacob J. Andruk graduated from the Field Artillery Automated Tactical Data Systems Specialist Advanced Individual Training course at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

The specialists play a critical role in the safe, accurate, and lethal delivery of the field artillery's various fire support systems used to support infantry and tank units in combat. Skills training included methods of computing target locations using computers or manual calculations, ammunition handling techniques, and operating and performing maintenance on related equipment, vehicles, generators, and artillery tactical and data systems. Andruk is the son of Mark A. Dantone and Melissa L. Andruk of S. Natoma Ave., Oak Lawn, Ill.

The private is a 2009 graduate of Oak Lawn Community High School.

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Acorn Public Library announces program Selling on eBay

Want to learn how to get rid of some of your extrastuff for some extra cash? The Acorn Public Library will host a freelecture entitled The Secrets of Selling on Ebay on Thursday March 4 at 7 PM. This program will be held by Vivienne Porter of C3 Solutions.

At this program, you will learn the basics of selling on eBay. This lecture course will begin with establishing a seller's account oneBay, and will then continue on with tips on photographing your items and what to include in your item descriptions, along with making the process of listing an item easier by using eBay's Turbo Lister software program. Many of the nuances of listing an item will also bediscussed as you are guided through the computer process of placing your item up for sale live on the famous internet auction web site.Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in OakForest.

Interested individuals are encouraged to call (708) 687-3700to register their attendance. This program is offered free to the public.

Oak Forest Park District holds dance sessions

The Oak Forest Park District wants you to join Momentum Dance Force PRE-TEAM!

Learn a routine, technique and perform around the community. Practices: Friday 5:30pm-6:50pm February 2010 – May 14, 2010. For: Boys and Girls 2nd to 11th grade. Contact Gina Byrnes @ 708-687-7270 x119 for more information

Orland Park Area Chamber holds Business Unwrapped

Jerry Grable had a question for John Bibeau and Tim Owens of Mulcahy, Pauritsch, Salvador & Co., Ltd. at the recent Business Unwrapped held at the Orland Park Public Library. The next Business Unwrapped will be held on Friday, March 12 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring a lunch and join Wehmeier Portraits as they discuss the importance of having your portrait taken for business use. For more information or to RSVP for Business Unwrapped call (708) 349-2972 or visit the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce website at www.orlandparkchamber.org

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The Oak Forest Park District is offering Country & Western Line Dancing for ages 21 yrs and older on Mondays, April 26, 2009 thru June 21, 2009 (no class May 31) from 7:30pm to 8:30pm. Fee is $40 for residents and $52 for non-residents. Call Gina Byrnes at 708-687-7270 x119 for more information.

The Oak Forest Park District, 15601 Central Ave. is offering Belly Dancing for Adults ages 16 years and older on Thursdays, March 18, 2009 thru April 22, 2009 from 8:30pm to 9:30pm.

Cost per six week session is $30 for residents and $39 for non-residents.

For more info, please call Gina Byrnes at (708) 687-7270, Ext. 119.

Office of the Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas 118 North Clark Street, Room 212 Chicago, Illinois 60602

Pappas Reminds Property Owners to Avoid Penalties Due Date for Current Property Tax Bills is Tuesday.

The due date for First Installment property tax bills for tax year 2009 is next Tuesday, March 2, 2010, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas said today.

Pappas said taxpayers should pay on time because a late payment receives a penalty of 1.5 percent per month.

Pappas said on-time payment can be made electronically, at cookcountytreasurer.com, until 11:59 p.m. Tuesday.

At any of more than 380 Chase Bank locations, until the close of business Tuesday.

From accounts at some 220 participating community banks, until the close of business Tuesday.

Pappas said owners of homes, businesses and land can visit cookcountytreasurer.com and enter their Property Index Number to see the amount due on their current bills.

Such information also is available at 312-443-5100 in English, Polish and Spanish.

Editor's Note: Normally we would not print an article with the same date the paper arrives but we are sure that our delivery is good enough for readers to take heed to this.

MetroSouth Medical Center opens new Alsip Health Center March 10

Hospital-Kicks off Knee Prevention Campaign for Women in conjunction with the Alsip opening Blue Island, Alsip Mayor Patrick Kitching will cut the official ribbon at MetroSouth Medical Center 's newly opened Alsip Health Center , 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, March 10. The center is located at 12246 S. Pulaski in Alsip .

The open to the-public Grand Opening celebration will include a commemorative toast, appetizers, raffle prizes and a brand new Wii and Wii Fit exercise system as the grand prize.

In addition, exercise experts will be on hand to show guests prevention strategies for beating "achy knees." All attendees will receive exercise bands and cards demonstrating quad strengthening techniques to do at home. The event is part of MetroSouth Medical Center 's "Knee Pain Loves Women" program, which provides care and prevention tips to area women who suffer from a variety of knee ailments, including osteoarthritis.

To stress the importance of healthy knee joints, MetroSouth has developed a program of simple, yet effective, quad strengthening exercises to relieve or ward-off knee pain from arthritis. In addition, board certified orthopedic surgeons from MetroSouth will educate patients during seminars in the Southland this spring. "Women tend to have more knee pain than men do," explains Dr. Miranda Huffman, a MetroSouth family medicine doctor in the Alsip clinic."

In general, women have less cartilage that cushions the knee and after menopause, the loss of estrogen causes cartilage to break down faster." Osteoarthritis is the biggest cause of knee pain for both sexes. Nationwide, 60% of the 27 million Americans with osteoarthritis are women and approximately two-thirds of all knee replacements are performed on women. Experts point to weight loss and strengthening exercises for warding off osteoarthritis-induced knee pain.

A new study by researchers at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics found that thigh muscle strength does predict incidence of painful or stiff knee OA. Women with the strongest quadriceps muscles appeared to be protected against the development of knee OA symptoms. "Simple but consistent quadriceps conditioning can help a great deal," says physical therapist Kathy Weislo. "I've had patients who were prime candidates for knee pain completely fend it off by developing strong quad muscles." For registration to the Alsip Grand Opening, please call 708-489-7027.

For more information on the "Knee Pain Loves Women" campaign, visit MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com

Prairie School Spelling Bee Success

Prairie School Principal Debra Ciaccio is shown with the top winners from Grade Two and Three in the recent school spelling bee. Organized by the school's parent group, the bee was a chance for students to practice their spelling, as well as their public speaking skills. Final words at the 2nd Grade level included, "hideous" and "suppose." Final words at the 3rd Grade level included, "accomplish," "caterpillar," and "accomplish." Shown are Charlie Gainer (3rd Grade, 2nd Place), Zaki Joudeh (3rd Grade, 1st Place), Nessa Trombetta (2nd Grade, 1st Place) and Samantha Barrett (2nd Grade, 2nd Place)."

Elk Club 4428 holds spaghetti dinner in Crestwood

Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale At the Elk Club 4428 Midlothian Turnpike, in Crestwood.

Your donation helps support local charities. These are some of the things the Rotary Club was able to do last year thanks to your donations: Donated 100 dictionaries to 3rd grade students in Blue Island, Crestwood and Robbins. They also donated 118 turkeys and food baskets to local churches during Christmas, hosted 95 kids from Blue Cap School to a baseball game at Windy City Thunderbolts, and two students from D. D. Eisenhower High School to leadership camp in Lake Geneva. They Purchased two Shelter Boxes (tent and supplies for 10 people for months) for Equador for the 2009 earthquake, and in January 2010 for the earthquake in Haiti. Also donated to local woman' children shelters.

Sunday, March 7, 2010 from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. Adults: $8.00 Children under 12- $4.00 Come for good food, raffles and fun! Blue Island Crestwood Rotary Club

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Advertise in our March 16 issue 17 suburbs starting at $15 Call Linda 312-624-8996

IRISH MASS to be held at St. Fabian's

Tuesday, March 16, 2009, 7pm (preludes begin) St. Fabian's, 83rd & Oketo in Bridgeview (2 blocks west of Harlem) will be hosting their Tenth Annual Irish Mass on March 16th, with ministers drawn from through out Chicagoland. The Presider: Fr. Michael Leonard, Director of the Chicago Irish Immigrant Support Center. Music will be provided by Dennis J. Newman, Music Director of St. Fabian's, along with cantor Ann Klochan, Jim Poynton & the Poynton Family Singers, Becky Scherer of the NW Indiana Symphony Chorus, soloist Mary Harvey, violin teacher Imelda Kaminski and other musicians from St. Fabian's; plus gifted Flautist & Archdiocesan Music Director, Anna Belle O'Shea; and bagpiper (& Music Director of the Emerald Society Pipes & Drums) Bruce Quintos.

The evening begins with Irish preludes at 7pm, with the Mass itself at 7:30pm. Refreshments will follow at 8:45pm in the parish hall, accompanied by the lively steps of the Weber Irish Dancers, along with raffle and prizes (among them, tickets to professional sports, and a pair of tickets to this summer's Jimmy Buffet concert at Toyota Park).

All profits from the evening will go to benefit the African students of Binkolo Secondary School in northern Sierra Leone (first evangelized by the Irish Holy Ghost missionaries). With this year's theme, "Let the Light Grow Ever Brighter—a Celebration of the Irish Love of Learning," it will be a great evening for teachers and all involved in education—and all who love Irish music!

Evergreen Park Library announces programs

After School Story Club

The library's After School Story Club for children in kindergarten through third grade will meet at 3:30 p.m. and have fun with crafts and games on Wednesdays, March 24 through April 28. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Beginners Quilting

Adults are invited to participate in a beginners quilting program with instructor Penny Nicholas on Mondays, Mar. 8; Mar. 22; Apr. 12; Apr. 26; May 3 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Registration and class fees of $25.00 for EP residents and $35.00 for non-residents are required. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Meet Author Catherine Chambers

On Tuesday, March 9 at 7:00 pm, the library will host a presentation and book signing by author Catherine Chambers. Ms. Chambers will sign copies of her book, Just a Boy from Home, available for purchase for before or after the presentation. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

Calligraphy

On Tuesday, March 16 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., teens, grades 6-12, are invited to the library learn how to write in a calligraphy. To register, call or stop by the library, or evergreenparklibrary.org.

BIG Read Book Talk: A Wizard of Earthsea

On Wednesday, March 10 from at 7:00-8:00 pm, all ages are invited to the library to discuss "A Wizard of Earthsea" by Ursula Le Guin. Books are available at the circulation desk one month prior to discussion. This program is in participation with The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment of the Arts, and in partnership with the Beverly Arts Center.

Irish Myths

On Wednesday, March 10 from 4:00 until 5:00 p.m., teens, grades 6-12, are invited to the library to listen to tales of the heroes and villains of Irish myths. To register, call or stop by the library, or visit evergreenparklibrary.org.

School's Out Movie Matinee

All ages are invited to enjoy their school holiday on Wednesday, March 17, by watching "The Princess and the Frog" [G] on our big screen. Showtime begins at 1:30 p.m. and kids may bring their own snack.

Kindred Spirits Book Discussion

On Wednesday, March 17 at 7:00 pm, adults are invited to the library's Kindred Spirits book discussion of In the Castle of the Hynns by Michael Raleigh. Copies of the book, including large print when available, can be checked out at the circulation desk one month prior to the discussion.

Office of Citizens' Services of Evergreen Park gives tax infomation

OCS Offers FREE Full Time Income Tax Service February 1 - April. OCS volunteer tax counselors are available by appointment, Monday through Friday, 9:30am - 4:00pm.

To arraige for a time slot, call 422-8776. Walk-ins will be considered, as time allows. Due to the volume of returns processed, one hour per client is allotted therefore, no business or lengthy returns are accepted.

You need to bring: Last year's federal and state tax forms, bank statements, all forms showing income including social security, and real estate tax bill.

OCS Income Tax Volunteers fo be current on new tax changes. Income Tax volunteers receive training each January.

To become volunteer tax preparers, they must successfully pass a written test. Don't delay call for appointment today.

Community Fish Fries

The Johnson Phelps Ladies Auxiliary # 5220, 9514 South 52nd Avenue, Oak Lawn, have changed the date of their PENNY SOCIAL to SUNDAY MARCH 14, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. For more information contact the Post 708-423-5220

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #14553 2nd ANNUAL FISH FRY Friday Feb 26 & March 19, 2010 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm Adults $10 Children under 12 yrs - $5 Fish Dinner or Spaghetti Marinara or Mac'n Cheese "CARRY OUT" Orders Available Parish raffle held on Friday, March 19th, 8:00 pm St. Louis de Montfort - Quinn Hall 8808 S. Ridgeland - Oak Lawn, IL Please bring a food item to replenish the food pantry

Take a trip with the Worth Park district on our monthly Senior Lunch Bunch to visit delicious places each month! Order what you like and pay for what you eat on the day of the trip. The next destination is to Greek Town, "The Parthanon", Wednesday, March 10 at 10:30am until 2:30pm. The Trip is $8 for residents, $12 for Non residents. All are welcome! Please visit www.worthparkdistrict.org for information or call 708 448 7080.

Office of the Cook County Treasurer

The due date for First Installment property tax bills for tax year 2009 is Tuesday, March 2, 2010!

Pappas said taxpayers should pay on time because a late payment receives a penalty of 1.5 percent per month.

Pappas said on-time payment can be made Electronically, at cookcountytreasurer.com, until 11:59 p.m. Tuesday.

At any of more than 380 Chase Bank locations, until the close of business Tuesday.

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Pappas said owners of homes, businesses and land can visit cookcountytreasurer.com and enter their Property Index Number to see the amount due on their current bills.

Such information also is available at 312-443-5100 in English, Polish and Spanish.

Home Care For A Loved One

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Members of Mother McAuley's Choral and Instrumental groups present a night of sacred music on March 9, 2010 in McAuley's Mercy Chapel

Mother McAuley Sacred Concert

The Music Department Faculty at Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School invites you to their annual Sacred Concert on Tuesday March 9th at 7 pm. The Concert will be held in McAuley's Mercy Chapel on the east side of the building located at 3737 W. 99th Street, Chicago.

The concert will feature McAuley's A Cappella Choir, String Ensemble, Symphony Chamber Winds and Advanced Chorus. Highlights of the concert includes performances of "Sing, O Sing," "Gloria," and "In Paradisum" from Faure's Requiem in D Minor.

The concert is free and open to the public. Freewill offerings will be accepted.

Jake Cohen and Chance Bone Photo by Saverio Truglia

by Alan Brestoff

We have such diversified theater in Chicago! We can see almost anything, geared for most any audience from little kids to musicals to dramas, we have it all. Steppenwolf Theatre has a unique program that keeps getting stronger and stronger, that is geared for young adults. They call this program, Steppenwolf for young adults (logical) and offer schools the opportunity to bring classes to the theater during school days for 10 a.m. matinees. This allows our school kids an opportunity to experience the live theater version of a book they may have read or studied, enhancing the arts programs of the school system.

Their current production "A Separate Peace" is based on the novel by John Knowles. Adapted by Nancy Gibsenan and directed by Jonathan Berry, "A Separate Peace" is a story about adolescent boys and their relationship. It takes place in a New England private school for boys in 1942. But we do not begin there. We begin as Gene (a wonderful character played with great style by Jake Cohen) comes on stage and takes us back 15 years to that time. He has a story to tell and things that he needs to share. Gene is a shy studious boy who has to work hard to make grades. His roommate, Finny (powerfully played by Damir Konjicija) is an athlete and a wonderful, personable "schmoozer" who always wins, at everything. Finny loves risk and danger. Gene has no desire for theses, but because he wants Finny to feel that he is his equal, takes part in what Finny starts. The major risk is jumping from a tree limb into the lake, often! In fact, Finny, who make up games and changes rules loves to jump from the limb, but of greater importance to him is to see Gene jump first. This is part of his "control" and power over the others. Their other classmates Bobby (Govind Kumar), Chet (Curtis M. Jackson), Brinker (Chance Bone) and Leper (Will Allan) look up to both Gene and Finny, but are in awe of Finny and surely want his approval.

Leper is a unique character in that he is the "outsider", the "misfit" who wants to be part of something, anything and Allan does a great job. He just finished a long run in "History Boys", where he also excelled as a student in a boy's school. All of the cast members are strong, each developing a real character and under the smooth direction if Jonathan Berry who utilized not only the upstairs stage but the aisles of the theater, we could feel the closeness of the characters to each other and to their headmaster (deftly handled by veteran Alan Wilder, who is always right on).

The bonds between these students is different for each but the special bond between Gene and Finny is quite complex. Trust is of great importance and when an accident takes place and the ever athletic Finny is injured, we question why and what took place.

Knowing that time is 1942 and the War was taking place, a lot of the conversation is about if it is really happening or just people talking. Each of the boys has an attitude about that as well and as the story progresses, the war becomes a major part of their story. As young men, I think most of us felt we were invincible, that we could do no wrong and that we would never get hurt taking risks. In many cases, we lucked out" and nothing happened to take away these feelings, but for others, they learned the realization that we are all just human and therefore vulnerable.

This is an impressive 75 minute production that I am positive will open eyes for some teenagers who have yet to come to the realization that Gene did and Steppenwolf does make this available for other audiences, but only on Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m. and only until March 19th. Tickets are $20 for you adults and $15 for students) and can be purchased at the box office, by phone at 312-335-1650 or online at www.steppenwolf.org

Peace Senior Honored With "Woman of Purpose" Award

For the 32nd consecutive year, hundreds of Catholic school students gathered for a special Mass on Feb. 4 at Holy Name Cathedral to celebrate African American Heritage Month and the fifth Kwanzaa principle NIA, or purpose. Queen of Peace senior Megan Graves, of Oak Lawn, was among those honored at the service with the NIA Woman of Purpose Award. Ten Peace students, along with campus minister Kathleen Greenan, also attended the Mass that featured traditional African drumming and liturgical dancing.

Other honorees included political activist and community leader Timmel Black and TV broadcast legend Merri Dee. Because of their many accomplishments, Graves, who plans to study theology at Dominican University, said she felt a little intimidated about receiving her medal.

"It was a real honor to stand up with everyone who has had such an impact on the community," Graves said. "I didn't feel I could live up to their standards. When I get to their ages, I hope to have had an impact like they did."

Even at the age of 17 Graves exemplifies Peace' Dominican values, especially this year's focused value of community.

Graves is involved in Peace Ambassadors, Student Council, Dominican Preachers, Human Rights Task Force, Chamber Singers and Tri-M, Music Honor Society. She is president of Spanish National Honor Society, and the weekend after being honored at the heritage Mass, led a VERITAS retreat for the second time.

"I like doing service; it's a little way of Jesus Christ's hands working through mine," Graves said.

A Common Sense Checklist of 2010 Small Business Considerations

Start the year – and the recovery – off right

Being a small business owner has never been for the faint of heart, but the last two years have been especially difficult. In fact, more businesses declared bankruptcy in the first nine months of 2009 than in all 2008. But with a slowly improving economy, small business owners have something new to consider: what to do next?

"There is excess capital sitting on the sidelines, waiting to be tapped by businesses – bank loans, private equity, and government assistance," said John Ashury, head of Regions Bank's Business Banking. "It's about determining the right next step – whether it's growth, succession or stabilization. There is uncertainty and difficulty still, but there is also opportunity."

As a top traditional bank lender to small businesses in the U.S. (Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, 2009), what is Regions advising clients to consider as next steps for 2010? It's a combination of honest assessment, common sense and goals, according to Asbury.

Small Business Considerations, A Common Sense Checklist for 2010

Get a fiscal – Realistically look at current financial positions and projections for 2010 (expected, not hoped for). Enlist an accountant or bookkeeper but come away with a realistic vision of financial expectations, outlook, cash position, debt, capital needs, etc.

Talk to your friends – Who are your trusted advisors? They should include a banker/financial advisor, tax advisor, accountant and maybe more. Remember that they bring more to the table than just a specific expertise; they also have a wealth of knowledge from helping other small business owners.

Examine your cash flow – When do receivables come in? When do you make payments? Can you increase cash on hand? Talk to your accountant, banker or financial partners with a goal of optimizing your cash operating cycle.

Stay plugged in – In 2009, several small business government programs were announced and implemented. These included recovery loans, increases in SBA guarantee programs, waivers of guarantee fees, and additional deposit insurance.

Spend wisely – How are you planning to capture business from struggling or out-of-business competitors? What's your plan to thrive through marketing or promotion?

Protect yourself against fraud – Start with the simple, like dividing bookkeeping and payments functions, and then consider moving to electronic monitoring of transactions, electronic payments and having additional checks and balances in your business.

Know your safety nets – Equity in your business is not the same as debt. Equity is like air in a balloon and debt the ballasts. A balloon that is having difficulties rising isn't aided by more ballasts; it typically needs more air.

Price it right – Consider/re-evaluate what you should charge for your services to be able to reasonably run your business . . . and remember: it's more typical for business owners to undercharge, than overcharge. How have you differentiated your value proposition? Avoid price-driven competitive strategies.

Borrow with purpose – Strong, businesses should consider how they can expand right now – for a host of reasons. Because rates are great. Supply is available and because there are incentives for expansion. If you've been parked on the sidelines, when will there be a better time to move/expand?

Plan for the future – Growth will return. Then what? Retirement? Succession planning? Keep an eye on potential estate tax liability, which is often overlooked by small business owners. Estate tax laws are in flux as we enter 2010 and change is certain. What are the implication to your plan?

Oak Lawn Public Library offers community programs

Perennials for Chicagoland

Carolyn Ulrich, editor of Chicagoland Gardening magazine, will present a free informational lecture on "Perennials for Chicagoland" 7 p.m. Monday, March 15 at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St. Discover the plant and flower varieties that thrive in our area and return year after year. Since 1987, Carolyn has written about gardening and appeared in the Chicago Sun-Times, the Chicago Tribune, Horticulture magazine, House Beautiful, Garden Design and many others. She is also a three-time winner of the Quill and Trowel Award for magazine writing from the Garden Writers Association of America.

Cooking for Kids

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host "Cooking for Kids" from 4-5 p.m. Tuesday, March 16 for students in third through fifth grade. At this month's event, young cooks will make recipes that celebrate the traditions of Ireland. Advance registration is required at the Youth Services Desk with the child's library card. There is a $5 non-refundable fee for supplies. Limit: 30.

For more information about this and other children's programs, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Library Hosts Youth Chess Club

Registration is now underway for a Chess Club open to children and young adults in third through tenth grade at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St.

Members will meet for six weeks on Wednesday afternoons at 4:45 p.m. from March 17 through April 21. Beginners as well as experienced players are invited to participate. Instructions and game boards will be provided, but members may opt to bring their own sets. Advance registration is required with the child's library card at the Youth Services Desk.

The Art & Life of Frida Kahlo

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St. will host a free art history lecture that examines "The Art & Life of Frida Kahlo" Wednesday, March 17 at 7 p.m.

Michelle Paluch-Misbur of Art Excursions, Inc. will present a slide lecture program exploring the life and work of this 20th century Mexican artist. Frida Kahlo created highly imaginative paintings that expressed the passion, struggle and pain that she felt both physically and emotionally. This program provides an art historical context for Kahlo's artistic production. The lecture will also delve into the interrelationship between various events in Kahlo's life and her powerful artwork, including numerous self-portraits.

Library Seeks Input from Teens

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will hold its next Teen Advisory Board meeting on Wednesday, March 17 from 7-8 p.m. Students in sixth through tenth grade are invited to share ideas and suggestions to help the library better serve people in this age group. Participation may qualify for volunteer service hours. The library's Teen Advisory Board meets on the third Wednesday of each month during the school year. No advance registration is required. Light refreshments will be provided.

Nature Exploration for Young Students

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will offer their next monthly "Exploring Nature" afterschool program for students in kindergarten through second grade on Thursday, March 18 from

Women of Paris

Singer Claudia Hommel will perform a free concert entitled "Women of Paris" at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., on Sunday, March 14 from 2-3 p.m.

A favorite from the Art Institute of Chicago to the Musée de Montmartre in Paris, Claudia Hommel is best known for her captivating cabaret concerts sung in both French and English. The library's performance will be a preview of a concert that Claudia will give as part of the Ravinia Festival "Rising Stars Series" this May. She will be accompanied by Bob Moreen on piano and Don Stille on accordion.

This concert is sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lawn Library.

View a complete schedule of adult programs at www.oaklawnlibrary.org. For additional information, call 708-422-4990.

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including early settlers, pioneers in social and civic reform, and advocates for the arts and architecture.

Friends of the Oak Lawn Library Trip: Wisconsin Tasting Tour

The Friends of the Oak Lawn Library will host a "Wisconsin Tasting Tour" bus trip on Friday, April 16. An in-person registration will be held from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, March 13 at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St.

Travel by motorcoach bus to the southeast region of Wisconsin to tour and sample delights at the Jelly Belly distribution center in Pleasant Prairie, a Kringle bakery in Racine and Miller Brewing Company in Milwaukee. Along the way, participants will enjoy lunch at Chartroom Charlie's Restaurant. The bus will depart from the library at 7:15 a.m. and return at 6 p.m. The cost of this trip is $62 for Friends members and $67 for nonmembers. Registrants must present a current membership card or receipt to receive the $5 discount. Two ticket limit. Please be advised that this trip is not wheelchair accessible.

After the in-person registration closes, you may call the library to find out how to purchase tickets. 708-422-4990.

Friends of the Oak Lawn Library: Discussion Groups

The Friends of the Oak Lawn Library sponsor two discussion groups that meet once a month, September through May, at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St.

Short story discussions are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. They will meet March 10 to discuss "Paul's Case" by Willa Cather and April 14 for "Nawabdin Electrician" by Daniyal Mueenuddin. Copies of these short stories may be picked up one month in advance. Contact Dorothy Whitney, 708-422-2390.

Oak Lawn Public Library offers a complete list of all programs on www.oaklawnlibrary.org or you may call 708-422-4990 and ask for the specific program you are interested in attending. Some programs require registration

The Tchaikovsky Ballet Theatre's Sleeping Beauty

Hollywood Entertainment Group presents The Tchaikovsky Ballet Theatre's "Sleeping Beauty" for two performances only Saturday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 21 at 2 p.m. at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Pkwy. Individual tickets are currently on sale for this not to be missed classical ballet, raved as "...one of the year's indispensable ballet experiences," by Lewis Segal, "L.A. Times" (2003).

Founded in 1870, The Tchaikovsky Ballet Theatre, located in Perm, Russia, is one of Russia's most distinguished artistic companies, and specializes in performing Tchaikovsky's work including Petipa's original 1890 production of "Sleeping Beauty." This beautiful ballet brings to life the magic and mystery of Princess Aurora's sixteenth birthday, an enchanted spell and a beautiful wedding, complete with a perfect storybook ending.

Choreographed by I. Ivanov, M. Petipa and A. Gorsky, "Sleeping Beauty" will feature principal dancers Natalia Moiseeva-Poleshchuk and Sergey Mershin and a company of 65.

A graduate of the Perm Ballet School, Natalia Moiseeva-Poleschuk has danced on the stage of the Perm Opera and Ballet Theatre since 1988. Moiseeva's works with which she is perhaps most closely associated are "The Cavalry's Halt," "Sleeping Beauty" and "The Nutcracker," in which she dances the principal roles. She won the second prize at "Arabesque-90," and in 1992, she danced with Vitally Poleschuk and went on to win a special Ekaterina Maksimova – Vasiliev Award "The Best Duet" at the competition "Arabesque-92." Moiseeva Poleschuk won a silver medal at a competition in Nagoya, Japan in 1993. In 1998 she received the distinguished title "Honored Artist of Russia."

Sergey Mershin has been with the Company since he graduated from Perm Ballet School in 2000. He was quickly promoted to principal, and currently dances the leading roles in "Swan Lake," "The Nutcracker," "The Fountain of Bakhchisaray," "Cinderella," "The Kingdom of the Shades," "Don Quixote," "Sleeping Beauty" and others. Recently added to his repertoire of classical works is George Balanchine's "Donizetti Variations," which won him critical acclaim. Mershin also won the third prize at the Perm competition of ballet dancers of Russia "Arabesque" in 2002 and 2004.

Artistic Director of the Ballet, Alekseу Miroshnichenko, was appointed Chief Ballet Master in 2009. He trained at the Vaganova Academy of Russian Ballet and joined the Mariinsky Theatre in 1992, where he discovered his true talent as a choreographer after staging his debut work of Stravinsky's "Les Noces" (1997). In 2002, he graduated from the choreography department of Vaganova Academy and went on to choreograph numerous ballets, most recently "The Rug" (to music by 211 Company), which he then staged for the Perm Ballet (2009) and "Like an Old Organ Grinder" to music by Leonid Desyatnikov (2007).

In 2005 Miroshnichenko was invited to the New York Choreographic Institute to take part in the spring and autumn sessions where he staged Stravinsky's Songs for the students of the School of American Ballet and Towards "Swan" for the soloists and corps de ballet of the New York City Ballet.

"Sleeping Beauty" will be performed Saturday, March 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 21 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are $32 - $87 and can be purchased at the Auditorium Theatre Box Office at 50 E. Congress Parkway, by calling Ticketmaster at (800) 982-ARTS (2787), or visiting Ticketmaster.com/auditorium. Discounted tickets are currently available for groups of 10 or more by calling (312) 431-2357 or visiting auditoriumtheatre.org.

Lookingglass Theatre presents Trust

Trust begins on March 3rd until April 25. It is written by Founding Ensemble Member David Schwimmer and Andy Bellin, based on the screenplay by Andy Bellin and Rob Festinger and directed by Ensemble Members David Schwimmer and Heidi Stillman.

Ensemble Members David Schwimmer and Heidi Stillman direct the World Premiere of his new script about a seemingly innocent online encounter that threatens to unravel the fabric of an American family. Using state of the art technology, Trust will be a cutting-edge theatrical experience, combining projection, video, photos, texting and live chat.

As the internet increasingly becomes the hunting ground for sexual predators, Trust will serve to not only raise awareness but move and empower audiences to take action in their community and within their own families. The Trust Community Consortium has been formed to facilitate this action. Post-show discussions will take place after every performance to incite dialogue about these issues, and a trained volunteer will be present in the lobby before during and after each show. Rape Victim Advocates is the lead community partner in this initiative. The Trust Community Engagement Partners also includes Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation, Chicago Foundation for Women, Children and Family Justice Center – Northwestern University School of Law, Human Rights Watch, ICARES, Mujeres Latinas En Accion, Pillars and the YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago.

The play was brought to Lookingglass by David Schwimmer, who is a current board member of The Rape Foundation of Santa Monica and an active supporter of the Rape Treatment Center in Los Angeles for more than ten years.

"Lookingglass is located at Pearson and Michigan in the Water Tower Works Building. It is the issues in Trust that inspired David Schwimmer to create and direct this production and the company to produce it. Our hope is to create an exciting and important piece of theatre and that the play, 'Film and our community partnerships will' bring maximum attention to this important matter," says Artistic Director David Catlin.

David Schwimmer just finished directing the film version of Trust in Michigan for Millennium Films Projects. The film features Clive Owen and Catherine Keener as the parents of a 14 year old daughter, who is victimized in an online chat room. Lookingglass cast members Spencer Curnutt, Zanny Laird, Zoe Levin will also appear in the film.

The cast of the play includes Lookingglass Ensemble Members Christine Mary Dunford, Raymond Fox and Philip R. Smith with Amy J. Carle, Spencer Curnutt, Keith Kupferer, Zanny Laird, Zoe Levin, Marianna Oharenko, Morocco Omari, and Allison Torem.

The design team includes Ensemble Member Dan Ostling (Set); Ensemble Member Mara Blumenfeld (Costume Design); Artistic Associate Christine Binder (Lighting), Artistic Associate Rick Sims and Michael Griggs (Sound Design); and William Anderson (Properties). The Multimedia Design is by Bridges Media. The design is dominated by projections with video, texting and live chatting. Much of this play's themes circle around this landscape and how, because of its pervasive quality, this new technology threatens the very fabric of

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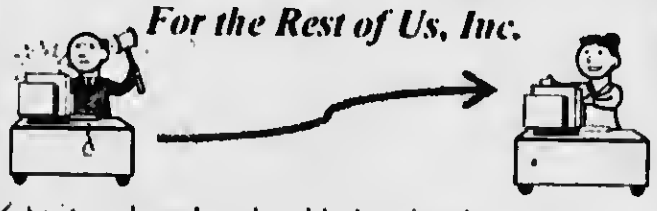

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Rev. Lyons, volunteer priest in Southland, dies

BY JOHN K RYAN

The Rev Leo Lyons, a retired priest who volunteered at several Southland parishes and was an Air Force chaplain for nearly three decades, has died He was 87

The Rev Lyons was living independently and assisting at St Michael Parish in Orland Park at the time of his death on Feb 18

A Chicago native born to parents of Irish descent, the Rev Lyons received his elementary education at four Catholic elementary schools before graduating from Quigley Preparatory Seminary in 1941 He graduated from the University of St Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in 1948 and was ordained that year

Beginning in 1948, he served for eight years as assistant pastor of St Mary Parish in Evanston before becoming a chaplain in the Air Force in 1956 His military service lasted until his retirement as a colonel in 1984

His nephew, Jim Lyons, of Orland Hills, remembered the Rev Lyons returning home from wherever the military had sent him in the world and performing weddings or baptisms for family members

"He brought a lot of happiness to his three brothers and their families," Lyons said "We're all very proud of him"

After his retirement, the Rev Lyons volunteered his services at St Bernadette in Evergreen Park, St Michael in Orland Park, St Emerie in Country Club Hills and St Agnes in Chicago Heights He also was a chaplain at Brother Rice High School in Chicago

He moved to Orland Park in 1985 At St Michael, he served at daily and Sunday masses, was chaplain for the parish's Knights of Columbus and St Vincent de Paul Society He was also chaplain for VFW Post 2604 and the Orland Fire Protection District

The tall, energetic priest with the booming voice was known for his generous ways, putting others first and caring for the poor He would often bring any leftovers from events he was at to homeless shelters in the area, recalled Rosanne Cesaro, who worked with the Rev Lyons at St Michael's St Vincent de Paul Society

"He had a huge heart and gave himself constantly to others," Cesaro said "Even in his 80s he'd be making sick calls in the community He was a true priest dedicated to his vocation"

An extroverted man, the Rev Lyons was also known as the "birthday/anniversary" priest During a Mass, he would ask who in the congregation was celebrating a birthday or anniversary, then include them in the intentional prayers, Cesaro said

"He did that to try to have those in the parish feel like they were part of a community," she said

Visitation for Rev Lyons will take place from 2 to 9 p m Monday at St Michael Church, 14327 Highland Ave Most Rev John Gorman, auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese, will be the main celebrant at a funeral Mass at 10 30 a m Tuesday at the church Interment will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Alsip

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The Acorn Public Library will present a panel discussion featuring four local mystery authors on Saturday March 6 at 2 PM. This program, featuring authors form the local chapter of the mystery writers group Sisters in Crime, is entitled Mystery Writers Revealed! These authors will discuss their books and their writing processes, as well as publishing and marketing. The authors involved in this program will be Helen Macie Osterman, Sandra L. Tatara, Sherry Scarpaci and Ralph E. Homer.

Helen Osterman lives in a suburb of Chicago. She has five children and nine grandchildren. She received a Bachelor of Nursing degree from Mercy Hospital-St. Xavier College and a Master's Degree from Northern Illinois University. Throughout her forty-five year nursing career, she wrote articles for both nursing and medical journals. She is also the author of the Emma Winberry Mystery series. The Accidental Sleuth, 2007 and The Stranger in the Opera House, 2009. Helen is a member of The American Association of University Women, The Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime.

Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in Oak Forest. Interested individuals are encouraged to call (708) 687-3700 to register their attendance. This program is offered free to the public.

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Obituary

Sgt. Alan J. Haymaker
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Funeral Service was held Friday, February 26 at Bethel Community Church 7601 W. Foster Ave. Chicago. Interment Maryhill Cemetery.

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VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Forest / Orland Park / Tinley Park

Volume 8 Number 5

March 2, 2010

Smith Crossing 'gratified' by approval of its $35 million expansion

The Village of Orland Park Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve Smith Crossing's plan to build a $35 million addition that will increase by nearly 60 percent the number of residences at its continuing care retirement community (CCRC).

In a statement released Tuesday, Michael A. Flynn, chief executive officer of the not-for-profit Smith Senior Living that operates Smith Crossing, said:

"We are gratified by the enthusiastic support of the village of Orland Park, and look forward to becoming an even greater part of the community's growth. Our investment in Orland Park's future is our vote of confidence in the village."

The 200,000 square foot expansion includes additions to every area of the community, from expanded and new common areas to 76 independent living apartment homes and 16 existing memory care suites that will be converted to skilled nursing care rooms.

Opened in November 2004, this all-new retirement community was a $60 million investment by Smith Senior Living. For its initial phase of development, Smith Crossing built 260,639 square feet of residences and common areas.

Smith Crossing is one of only 15 CCRCs in Illinois awarded a five-year term of accreditation for "exemplary conformance" to international standards set by CARF-CCAC, the industry's sole accrediting body. This honor reflects the outstanding standard of care and the host of services and amenities designed for residents in villas and spacious apartments at Smith Crossing.

The community is part of the highly regarded Smith Senior Living communities in the southwestern region of metropolitan Chicago. The organization established its first community in 1924 in Chicago's historic Beverly neighborhood.

For more information about Smith Crossing call 708-326-2300 or visit smithcrossing.org.

Oak Forest Chef competes in culinary competition

Timothy Bucci, CEC, CCE, CHE, of Oak Forest, Ill., is one of 15 chefs who qualified to compete in the second of two culinary competitions to determine who will be selected to represent the United States on ACF Culinary Team USA at the Culinary World Cup in Luxembourg this November and the 2012 Internationale Kochkunst Ausstellung (IKA), commonly referred to as the "culinary Olympics," in Erfurt, Germany.

The first of two tryouts for ACF Culinary Team USA, the official representative team of the United States in major international culinary competition, was held Feb.

19-21 at Elgin Community College, Elgin, Ill., featuring the cold food segment. After a grueling tryout process in which the 26 chef candidates had 17 hours to prepare, plate and present their dishes according to the guidelines, 15 were awarded medals and will advance to the hot food segment April 11 at Elgin Community College. Twenty-eight chefs were eligible to try out, but two were unable to attend.

Bucci (pictured above) is an associate professor at Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Ill. Before joining the college, he taught at The Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago (now Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts). Previously, Bucci had worked in restaurants and hotels for 14 years, including as executive chef for House of Hughes, Crestwood, Ill. He graduated from Joliet Junior College's culinary-arts program and has a bachelor's degree in restaurant, hotel and institutional management from Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, Ind. Bucci earned an individual gold medal at the 2008 IKA. He has been a member of the American Culinary Federation (ACF) since 1984, and is a member of ACF Louis Joliet Chapter. He was the 2009 ACF Chef Educator of the Year.

Bucci received a gold medal at the tryout. Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded based on a points system that represented a standard of presentation and layout, glazing, composition and harmony of ingredients, correct preparation and crafts manship, and serving methods and portions. Because competitors compete against a standard and not each other, there can be several competitors in each medal category.

"This was the beginning of the journey for Team USA, and I was thrilled with the level of excitement and professionalism from all of the competitors," said ACF Culinary Team USA Manager Steve Ittleba, CMC, CCE, AAC, corporate executive chef at Unilever Foodsolutions, Lisle, Ill. "After seeing the foods that were displayed, I know that Team USA will have a great cold program in Luxemburg and at the 'culinary Olympics' in 2012. Now I am so excited to see what the finalists are going to produce in the hot kitchen in April."

Before being chosen to attend the tryout, chef candidates had to pass a rigorous application review in which their application, resume, biography, competition experience, work history and other qualifications were evaluated. Each chef had to display a high level of craftsmanship based on solid classical cooking principles and a variety of cooking disciplines incorporating current and modern trends in presentation, technique and taste.

For more information, visit www.acfchefs.org.

Orland Township sponsors senior trips, dancing and meals

Orland Township is hosting a senior luncheon for resident's age 55 and older on Tuesday, March 16, 2010. The luncheon will be held in the Orland Township Activity Center, 14807 So. Ravinia, Orland Park, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Doors open at 11:15 a.m.

Tickets for Orland Township residents are available now at the Orland Township Office, 14807 So. Ravinia, Orland Park. Ticket price of $7.00 includes a lunch of Corned Beef, Cabbage, Parslied Potatoes, Glazed Baby Carrots, Rye Bread & Butter, Dessert and Beverage. Singer, Kym Frankovelgia, will entertain the audience with the very best of the big bands, standards, comedy, and Broadway show tunes. Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, the western half of Tinley Park and the unincorporated area of Orland Township. The Orland Township office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

Orland Township is sponsoring a St. Pat's St. Joe's Dinner Dance for seniors age 55 and over. The dinner dance will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2010 at the Orland Chateau, 14500 S. Lagrange Rd., Orland Park, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tickets are necessary and may be purchased at the Orland Township office, 14807 South Ravinia, Orland Park. Tickets for Orland Township residents are available now for $16.00. Non-resident tickets are available for $21.00. Ticket price includes a family-style meal and entertainment by the Ron Smolen Orchestra. Door prizes and a 50-50 raffle will be offered. Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, Unincorporated Orland Township, and the western half of Tinley Park. The Orland Township office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

Join Orland Township on Tuesday, March 23, 2010 on this fabulous tour which includes the Bahai House of Worship in Wilmette, IL, the only temple of the Bahai faith on this continent. The tour includes a film in the visitors center, a tour of the main sanctuary as well as the spectacular gardens. To rest our weary feet, lunch will be served at Maggiano's Restaurant where you'll enjoy a delicious luncheon of a Maggiano's Salad, Mom's Lasagna, Chicken Parmesan, and Italian Green Beans. Dessert will be Warm Apple Crostada served with Coffee, Tea or a Soft Drink. Our last stop will be the Illinois Holocaust Museum which is dedicated to preserving the legacy of the Holocaust by honoring the memories of those who were lost and by teaching the universal lessons that combat hatred, prejudice and indifference. The museum features an inspiring Hall of Remembrance for contemplation and reflection and a permanent exhibition chronicling life before, during and after the Holocaust.

For more information regarding any upcoming events and activities contact Kathy Kenyeri, Senior Services Coordinator, at (708) 403-4222.

E-mail address: vvnew (a sbcglobal.net

South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Volume 11 Number 5

March 2, 2010

John and Pat Slack of New Lenox stand in front of a buffet table they prepared for a recent Together We Cope event kicking off the agency's annual dinner dance. They will prepare a six-course dinner for six as an auction item at this year's dinner March 5 at the Odyssey Country Club in Tinley Park.

Gourmet dinner served by a senator among Together We Cope auction items

A gourmet dinner prepared by a New Lenox couple and served by two local dignitaries is among many items to be auctioned during Together We Cope's annual dinner dance March 5 at the Odyssey Country Club in Tinley Park.

John and Pat Slack, volunteers at Together We Cope, will prepare a six-course dinner for a party of six. Dinner will be served by State Sen. Maggie Crotty (D-19th) and Kathryn Straniero, executive director of Together We Cope. The dinner will be presented at a location mutually agreed upon, including the option of the senator's home. The Slacks have prepared meals for various fundraisers, including Together We Cope events.

Other dining items to be auctioned at the dinner are Guest Chef for a Day at Charlie Trotter's in Chicago, wine tasting party for 10 at Cooper's Hawk Winery in Tinley Park, and gift certificates to many local restaurants. Many other items are available for bidding at live and silent auction, including airline tickets, use of vacation condos, jewelry, sports collectibles and 50 gift baskets.

Tickets for the dinner dance are $75 per person and are available from Karen Moran at (708) 633-5040. The event is a major fundraiser for Together We Cope, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that assists families in temporary crisis from 22 south suburban communities.

Worth Park District announces schedule

New this year to the Worth Park District is the Shamrock Search! Children will be going on a search for shamrocks. Prizes will be given out to all participants and special prizes for those who find the "lucky" shamrocks. Children ages 3-12 can test their luck with this fun St. Patrick's Day event. This event will take place on Wednesday, March 17 at the Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit). The cost is $ 6.00 for residents and $ 9.00 for non residents. The deadline date to register is March 10th.

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Cruise

Join us for a trip to watch the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown Chicago followed by a Boat Cruise and lunch on the historic Chicago River. Don't miss out on this great Irish Celebration! The trip leaves from the Alsip Park District (11521 S. Kostner) and includes transportation, admission to cruise, and lunch on the Chicago River. This trip is on Saturday, March 13 from 10 am – 4:30 pm for ages 18 and up. The cost is $ 65.00 per person.

Spring Break Dodge Ball Camp

Are your children looking for something to do with their friends over spring break? Dodge ball camp is the perfect way to spend their time! Each day participants in the spring break dodge ball camp will play several games of dodge ball and in a variety of different ways. Dodge ball camp meets Monday, March 22 thru Friday, March 26 from 10:45 am – 11:45 am and is for children ages 5 - 12. The cost for the camp is $ 40.00 residents and $ 60.00 non-residents. The deadline date to register is March 15. This program is located at the Terrace Centre.

Spring Break Camp

Are your children looking for something to do over Spring Break? The Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit) will have child care available from 9AM to 4 PM beginning Monday, March 22 – Friday, March 26 with our Spring Break Camp for children ages 3-12. Your child will participate in a wide range of activities including arts and crafts, cooking, indoor and outdoor games, and a field trip. Morning and afternoon snacks will also be provided. Spring Break Camp fees are $20 per child for residents and $30 per child for non-residents. Extended hours are also available at an additional fee. Space is limited, register early! Registration deadline is March 15th.

Jazzercise

When you love your workout, results come easy. Jazzercise combines elements of jazz dance, training, Pilates, yoga and more to create an effective exercise program for people of all ages and fitness levels. Weights are optional. Jazzercise meets on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays from 9:25 – 10:25 am to the Worth Park District's Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit). The monthly Easy Fit Ticket price is $ 36.00. There is a $ 35.00 joining fee.

Soc Hop and Activity Night

Come out Friday, March 19 to Worth Park District's Soc Hop and Activity night to enjoy the latest music, socialize with friends and play some games. Wii, foosball, and bean bags will be a couple of the activities available. Concession will also be available at a small fee. This event is for grades 6 – 8 and will take place at the Terrace Centre from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. The cost is $ 5.00 resident and $ 7.00 non-resident.

Senior Lunch at the Terrace Centre

Enjoy a delicious home-made lunch, bingo and conversation with old and new friends. Residents and non residents are encouraged to attend. Please register and reserve your spot today! Senior Lunch will be on Wednesday, March 17 from 12:00 – 2:00 PM. The cost is $ 5.00 preregistration and $ 7.00 at the door.

Galos Caves' Salt Caves

No need to go to the beach to absorb the intense air of the mineral rich salts! Travel with The Worth Park District to the Galos Caves for a 45 minutes session of relaxation. Last summer, the first salt iodine cave in the U.S. was built according to very strict technological rules. We will stop at the Jolly Inn for lunch after our relaxing time at the caves so make sure to bring money for lunch. This trip leaves from the Terrace Centre on Tuesday, March 16 from 10 AM – 2 PM. This trip is an all age event but children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. The cost will be $30.00 adults and $20.00 children. Registration deadline is March 2.

Hitting and Fielding Lessons

Could your son or daughter use a tune up for their upcoming baseball or softball season? Are they looking to improve their game? During these one hour private lessons, hitters will learn what it takes to get quality at bats and fielders can learn the fine mechanics of their positions. These lessons are taught by a Varsity player from Trinity College. Hitting and Fielding lessons are for kids ages 7 – 14. The fee is $30.00 resident and $45.00 non resident. There are special rates for purchasing more than 1 lesson.

Speed Training Lessons

The Worth Park District is offering private speed training lessons that will work your child's footwork to improve their speed and agility. These private lessons will improve speed, vertical, and help them become more physically fit. These lessons will last 45 minutes and are taught by a Varsity player from Trinity College. Speed training lessons are for kids ages 10 – 17. The fee is $40.00 resident and $60.00 non-resident. These lessons can be taken with 1 other sibling or friend at a special rate. Schedule your lesson at the Worth Park District Terrace Centre – 11500 S. Beloit. For more information, please call the Worth Park District at (708) 448- 7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org.

Worth Seniors offer free vision screening

The Worth Township Seniors will offer Free Vision Screening on Thursday, March 11, 2010 from 9AM – Noon. Last Appointment will be at 11:45. This screening is done at the Worth Township Center, 11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip.

You *must* be a Worth Township Resident to participate. Appointments are necessary. Please call (708) 371-2900, Ext. 28

E-mail address: vvnew @sbcglobal.net

B-MAC EDITION

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 Number 5

March 2, 2010

Volunteers Needed for Sertoma Centre's Fun Bus Trip

Sertoma Centre is looking for people willing to donate one evening of their time on March 16th to help support over 650 individuals with disabilities. We ask you to join other volunteers for a bus ride to McCormick Place and a few hours of packing vendor booths at the Housewares Show.

For eight years, Sertoma Centre has been fortunate enough to be one of only five charities allowed to receive donations from the vendors. As a community service agency dedicated to serving individuals with developmental, physical, emotional disabilities and/or mental illness, we are always grateful to those who consistently support our cause.

We will find the appropriate job for each person's skill level and ability, and will accommodate anyone who is interested in joining us. You must be 18 to participate.

You would need to notify us by March 9th. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Diane Sak, Sertoma Centre event manager at (708) 481-5627 or dsak@sertomacentre.org, or visit www.sertomacentre.org and click on the McCormick Place Housewares Show Packing Fun Bus link under News & Events on the home page. The coach buses will leave Sertoma Centre, 4343 W. 123rd St., Alsip at 4 p.m. SHARP and return by 9:30 p.m. (You must arrive at Sertoma no later than 3:45 p.m.) Participants will receive a boxed dinner during the ride into Chicago. For more information call (708) 730-6206, or visit www.sertomacentre.org.

Honor Flight Fundraiser to be held in Midlothian

The Midlothian Veterans Committee was recently formed to encourage, preserve and strengthen the bond of comradeship among all veterans and to foster a sense of true patriotism locally and throughout the country. Given the fact that the World War II heroes among us are now at an advanced age, in fragile physical condition, our major focus at this time is to attempt to honor and thank as many of our local veterans as possible by sending them on an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., to visit their World War II Memorial. Honor Flight Chicago is a remarkable organization dedicated to honoring Chicagoland's World War II veterans by flying them, all expenses paid, to Washington for a full day of honor, remembrance, and celebration. The day is culminated by an incredible and very emotional welcome home at Midway Airport in which the veterans are greeted as returning heroes by a bagpipe band, the Patriot Guard Riders, military personnel, and hundreds of flag-waving supporters.

The wait list for one of these flights is very long. The Committee's goal is to raise the funds necessary to add an Honor Flight within the next few months for Midlothian and Bremen Township veterans. To that end, a fundraiser is scheduled on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at Papa T's Bar & Grill, 4660 West 147th Street, Midlothian, from 1 to 6 p.m. Tickets are $20 and include food and beverages. There will also be a silent auction with sports memorabilia, gift baskets, airline tickets and many other items. The raffle includes a large screen television and cash prizes. Veterans featured in local author Don Dalton's book, "A Tribute to the Men and Women of Midlothian in World War II", have been invited as guests to the fundraiser, and individuals who have a copy of Don's book are encouraged to bring it to the fundraiser. The veterans who attend will gladly autograph the books. Military vehicles will be on display in the parking lot. Several options are available to contribute to the success of this event: Purchase a ticket to attend; purchase raffle tickets; donate an item(s) for the silent auction; provide a monetary donation. Donations can also be made in memory or in honor of a veteran, and that veteran will be recognized on March 13th as well as on the Honor Flight.

For tickets, to make a donation, or for further information, please contact Sharon Doeden at 708-990-8368 or Dave Twombly at 708-813-0280. To place an ad in the Ad Book, please contact Joseph Jones at 708-691-1030. This project bears additional significance in that it was a special project of our late and beloved former VFW Commander, Bill Burtner, who was tragically murdered during a robbery last November. Monetary donations should be made payable to the Bill Burtner Memorial Honor Flight and can also be sent to the Midlothian VFW Post at 14817 South Pulaski, Midlothian, 60445. All contributions would be a tremendous help in making this additional Honor Flight a reality for our local heroic World War II veterans and serve as a fitting tribute for their sacrifice and dedication to ensure our country's freedom. For further information, please contact Karen Kreis at 708 687 7393.

Sertoma Centre's Melanie Jones Elected Chairman

Sertoma Centre is proud to announce that Director of Advancement and Communications Melanie Jones (above) was elected Chairman of the Board for the Matteson Area Chamber of Commerce for 2010. The Matteson Area Chamber of Commerce exists to serve the five member communities: Matteson, Olympia Fields, Richton Park, Park Forest and University Park by promoting a favorable business climate, supporting opportunities for economic growth and development while serving as a voice for local business.

Melanie Jones officially assumed her responsibilities as Chairman with the support of the village officers who are the backbone of this organization. She stated, "I look forward to building and investing in programs that will promote growth in the five member communities and provide additional benefits for all its members."

As Director of Advancement and Communications at Sertoma Centre in Alsip, Jones' main goal is to create awareness and raise money for Sertoma Centre's programs, which benefit over 650 individuals with developmental, physical, emotional disabilities and/or mental illness. Her goals of awareness and fundraising are much the same as Chairman of the board for the Matteson Area Chamber organization.

Sertoma Centre, Inc., a 501 (C) 3 non profit, community service agency, has a proven commitment to the Matteson Area. Recently, Sertoma opened a third facility in Matteson, IL that houses the Good as New Thrift Store and Training Centre, a Mental Health program and soon will hold a Community Counseling Centre. The agency also operates two day facilities in Alsip, IL.

Ms. Jones provides a perfect example of how Sertoma Centre programs have a direct impact on individuals in the Matteson Area Chamber communities. "Several of Sertoma Centre's residential homes also know as Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) are located in the Matteson Area Chamber communities," she explained. "This type of living arrangement affords individuals with disabilities the opportunity to learn and interact on many different levels."

Moraine Valley hosts Job Fair

Employers from all industries who have job and internship position openings are encouraged to register for the upcoming Spring Job and Internship Fair at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills, Illinois. The event will be on Thursday, March 25, from 2 to 5 p.m., in the college's new M building, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Moraine Valley's fair offers an ideal atmosphere to secure excellent candidates to fill employment needs. Moraine students, alumni and community members will have the opportunity to learn about your company and discuss the job and internship openings employer's have available. The registration fee of $100 includes a six-foot table, tablecloth, sign, chairs, advertising and lunch for two recruiters. Special Offer: Receive a $50 savings, if you register and pay for both Spring (March 25, 2010) and Fall (September 2010) fairs at just $150. Please indicate this on your registration form enclosed. If you plan to send more than two recruiters, please add an additional $25 per recruiter to your registration fee. The registration deadline is March 12, 2010. We encourage you to register early to assure that your information is included in the job fair's Employer Guide. You may reserve your booth online at www.morainevalley.edu/jre. For more information about the fair, call the JobResource Center at (708) 974-5737, or e-mail Tamima Farooqui at farooquit@morainevalley.edu.

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Your Suburban Newspaper for 36 years

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VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Lawn / Burbank / Hickory Hills / Evergreen Park

Volume 36 Number 18

March 16, 2010

Evergreen Park approves building and building regulation amendments

By Matt Mayer

The village board at a recent Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting approved an ordinance that amends a section and a chapter pertaining to building and building regulations of the village municipal code. Some of the changes are as follows: Whenever the code official has condemned a structure or equipment, notice will be sent via first class mail to the taxpayer of record or the party responsible for paying any water bill. The notice will include a statement of the violations and a deadline in which to correct sueb violations.

The code official may order the demolition of any structure which is dangerous, unsafe, unsanitary or otherwise unfit for human habitation or occupancy; a public nuisance; vacant or abandoned for more than 6 months; under construction where there has been a cessation of normal construction activity for a period of more than 6 months and any violation of the provisions of the code for more than 6 months

Other highlights: Cook County was notified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that approximately $10.0 million will once again be available for the 2010 CDBG funding. A request was approved for the village to apply to the County requesting $629,000 CDBG funds for the 2010 year that will be used for Homan Avenue Senior Center project formally the Christian Church.

A request from the Evergreen Park Athletic Association to use Norris Field during the 2010 baseball season was approved as well as a request the girl's softball league for it's annual parade on Sunday, April 17, 2010.

ComEd CEO to recieve reward at SXU

Frank M. Clark (pictured to the right), chairman and chief executive officer of ComEd, will receive the Shield of Saint Xavier at the 25th Annual President's Scholarship ball on Sat., March 20, 2010 at the Chicago Hilton, 720 S. Michigan Ave.

"The Shield of Saint Xavier is our University's highest honor. It is awarded to individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment and service to the greater Chicago community, particularly to the city's Catholic institutions."said Interim President and Provost Angela Durante, Ph.D. "Mr. Clark's leadership roles at ComEd and Exelun and his long history of civic involvement exemplify the ideals of Saint Francis Xavier, Mother Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy."

The President's Scholarship Ball has raised millions of dollars for the President's Scholarship Program, which provides financial support to Saint Xavier's most deserving students. The black-tie event is open to the public and President-Designate Christine M. Wiseman, J.D., will host a reception from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Online registration is now open.

As head of ComEd, Clark oversees one of the largest electrical utilities in the U.S. A subsidiary of Chicago-based Exelon Corporation, ComEd serves 3.8 million residential and business customers in northern Illinois, or 70 percent of the state's population.

Clark previously served as president of ComEd and was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the company. He also was executive vice president and chief of staff of Exelon. Since joining ComEd in 1966, Clark rose steadily through the ranks, holding various positions in both corporate support and line functions. During his 43-year career at ComEd, he held key leadership positions at a number of business-critreal functions across the company, including customer service operations; marketing and sales, regulatory, governmental and community affairs; information technology; communications; human resources; labor relations; and distribution services.

Clark serves on the board of trustees of the Museum of Science and Industry, the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum, DePaul University, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the University of Chicago Medical Center; the board of directors of Metropolitan Family Services, Illinois Manufacturers Association, Big Shoulders Fund, United Way of Metropolitan Chicago, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, Waste Management, Inc., Harris Financial Corp. and Aetna Inc.; and the executive committee of The Chicago Community Trust. He sits on the governing board of the Illinois Council on Economic Education and is a member of the Chicago Bar Association, the Economic Club of Chicago, The Commercial Club of Chicago, and the Executives' Club of Chicago. Clark is a co-founder of the Rowe-Clark Math & Science Academy on Chicago's west side.

Clark received his bachelor's and law degrees from DePaul University.

John J. Benish, Jr. '98 and Christie Benish will serve as Ball co-chairs.

The President's Scholarship Ball has raised millions of dollars for the President's Scholarship Program, which provides financial support to Saint Xavier's most deserving students. The black-tie event is open to the public. For more information or reservations, please contact (773) 298-3311 or specialevents@sxu.edu with "President's Scholarship Ball" in the subject line.

Dr. Michael Thomas to speak at Smith Village

Smith Village free Memory Support meeting on 'Falls' with Dr. Michael Thomas open to public on Tuesday, March 23

This is a great opportunity for families to network and exchange insights. Dr. Michael Thomas, the medical director of Smith Village, will speak on "Falls" during a free Memory Support group meeting at6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 23, for area residents and families of people who live at the continuing care retirement community at 2320 W. 113th Place.

Dr. Thomas, who is director of the Senior Cognitive Evaluation Program at Little Company of Mary Hospital, says seniors are at higher risk of falling and, unfortunately, in about 5 percent cases there is a serious outcome.

He will discuss what constitutes a fall, their origins and what we can do to minimize the problem. Dr. Thomas cautions caregivers to be vigilant about warning signs of physical conditions that can lead to falls, including, but not limited to, low blood pressure, cognitive problems, arthropathy and sensory losses.

This special 60-minute program will include a discussion led by Diane Morgan, Smith Village's resident service director for memory support and assisted living. She will serve as a facilitator and give participants time to share personal experiences.

Light refreshments will be served. Please call 773-474-7300 to reserve a seat.

About Smith Village

Smith Village residents find their vibrant lifestyle well-suited to keeping active and engaged in the community. It offers independent living apartments, assisted living, Alzheimer's and memory support residences, and skilled nursing care accommodations all on one campus.

Smith Village is one of the highly regarded Smith Senior Living communities in the southwestern region of metropolitan Chicago . The not-for-profit organization established its first community in 1924 on the site of Smith Village 's new campus.

For more information, call 773-474-7300 or visit www.SmithVillage.org.

Illinois Income Tax

Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn yesterday called for a 33% increase in the state's individual income tax rate, but a new Tax Foundation report cautions against damaging one of the only good features of the state's tax system. Instead of raising the income tax rate from 3% to 4%, lawmakers should broaden the sales tax base and end targeted business incentives while lowering statutory rates.

"Illinois shouldn't rely on taxes alone to bring the state out of the red, but a change in tax policy could help its economy," said Tax Foundation State Analyst Justin Higginbottom, who wrote the report. "Increasing taxes would worsen the state's already harsh business tax climate and make the state less attractive to the businesses and individuals it should be courting."

Tax Foundation Fiscal Fact, No. 217, "Illinois Should Respond to Recession by Broadening Tax Bases and Spending Frugally, Not by Raising the Personal Income Tax Rate," is available online at www.taxfoundation.org

Illinois ranks 30th out of 50 (where 1 is the best) in the Tax Foundation's 2010 State Business Tax Climate Index, which measures each state's "tax-friendliness" toward business. The state scores worse than three neighbors (Indiana is 12th, Missouri is 16th and Kentucky ranks 25th), while two neighboring states score in the bottom 10 (Wisconsin is 42nd and Iowa is 46th).

Illinois's state-local tax burden of 9.3 percent (the percentage of their income that Illinois residents pay in state and local taxes) ranks slightly below the national average of 9.7 percent. Illinois' neighbors have similar burdens, except Wisconsin, which has the 10th highest burden nationally at 10.2 percent.

The state's property taxes on homeowners are 6th highest in the country as a percentage of median home value – higher than all neighboring states except Wisconsin. Illinois's combined state and average local sales tax rate of 8.4% is higher than all of its neighboring states and 6th highest in the country (the total rate is higher in some localities, such as Chicago where state, county and city taxes total 10%).

Illinois's corporate income tax rate of 7.3% (the state corporate income tax of 4.8% plus the personal property replacement tax of 2.5%) is comparatively high nationwide, but three of the state's neighbors have even higher rates (Iowa's is 12%, Indiana's is 8.5% and Wisconsin's is 7.9%) while two have lower rates (Missouri's is 6.25% and Kentucky's is 6%).

The best feature of Illinois's tax system is its flat personal income tax rate of 3% (the lowest flat rate in the country). A flat rate with few deductions and credits stabilizes revenue flows from year to year, and minimizes distortionary decision-making by individuals and businesses.

The report notes that one way to improve the state's tax system is to expand the sales tax base to include all end-user goods and services. The state chose to forego over $1.4 billion in tax revenue in 2008 by exempting groceries, drugs and medical appliances from the state sales tax. Another suggestion is to end targeted business incentives such as film tax credits and tax breaks for the bio-fuel industry.

"With these changes, Illinois can create a stable revenue base for the future and concentrate on making the state attractive to businesses and residents."

Village View Publication, Inc.
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Fax: 708-221-6663
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Owner Editor Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

IRS offers help for taxpayers

The Internal Revenue Service today announced several additional steps it is taking this tax season to help people having difficulties meeting their tax obligations because of unemployment or other financial problems.

The steps, an expansion of efforts that began more than a year ago, include additional flexibility on offers in compromise for struggling taxpayers, a series of Saturday "open houses" offering taxpayers extra opportunities to work out tax problems face to face with the IRS, special outreach with partner groups to unemployed taxpayers and the availability of more information on a special section of the IRS Web site.

For some taxpayers, an offer in compromise, an agreement between a taxpayer and the IRS that settles the taxpayer's debt for less than the full amount owed, continues to be a viable option. IRS employees will now have additional flexibility when considering offers in compromise from taxpayers facing economic troubles, including the recently unemployed.

Specifically, IRS employees will be permitted to consider a taxpayer's current income and potential for future income when negotiating an offer in compromise. Normally, the standard practice is to judge an offer amount on a taxpayer's earnings in prior years. This new step provides greater flexibility when considering offers in compromise from the unemployed. The IRS may also require that a taxpayer entering into such an offer in compromise agree to pay more if the taxpayer's financial situation improves significantly.

These immediate steps are part of an on-going effort by the IRS to ensure the availability of the Offer in Compromise program for taxpayers.

In addition, IRS will hold hundreds of special Saturday open houses to give struggling taxpayers more opportunity to work directly with IRS employees to resolve issues. The offices will be open on March 27 and three additional Saturdays in the spring and early summer. Dates, times and locations will be announced shortly.

During the expanded Saturday hours, taxpayers will be able to address economic hardship issues they may be facing or get help claiming any of the special tax breaks in last year's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, including the Homebuyer tax credit, American Opportunity Credit, Making Work Pay credit, Expanded Earned Income Tax Credit

In addition to these special Saturdays, taxpayers can take advantage of toll-free telephone assistance and regularly scheduled hours at local Taxpayer Assistance Centers. Taxpayers can find the location, telephone number and business hours of the nearest assistance center by visiting the Contact My Local Office page on IRS.gov.

The IRS is working and coordinating with state departments of revenue and state workforce agencies to help taxpayers who are having problems meeting their tax liabilities because of unemployment or other financial problems.

These coordinated efforts may include opportunities for taxpayers to make payment arrangements and resolve both federal and state tax issues in one place.

Taxpayers who are unemployed or struggling financially can find information in a new electronic tax center on the IRS Web site, IRS.gov. This online tax center has numerous resources including links to information on tax assistance and relief to help struggling taxpayers

The IRS will continue to offer other help to taxpayers, including: Assistance of the Taxpayer Advocate Service for those taxpayers experiencing particular hardship navigating the IRS. Postponement of collection actions in certain hardship cases. Added flexibility for missed payments on installment agreements and offers in compromise for previously compliant individuals having difficulty paying. Additional review of home values for offers in compromise in cases where real-estate valuations may not be accurate. Accelerated levy releases for taxpayers facing economic hardship.

In addition, the IRS will accelerate lien relief for homeowners if a taxpayer cannot refinance or sell a home because of a tax lien. As previously announced, a taxpayer seeking to refinance or sell a home may request the IRS make a tax lien secondary to the lien by the lending institution that is refinancing or restructuring a loan. The taxpayer may also request the IRS discharge its claim if the home is being sold for less than the amount of the mortgage lien under certain circumstances.

Patronage Paradigm is Decimating Illinois

Today, Governor Pat Quinn (D) in his budget address presented a state spending plan where expenditures exceed tax revenues by $4.7 billion. He also proposes to borrow and bond the $4.7 billion in over-due bills. In a state that has a "balanced budget" clause in its constitution, Pat Quinn is blatantly violating of his oath of office.

Politically, our good government governor Quinn cannot take on patronage and bloated government because he is funded by the very proponents of patronage. SEIU and public sector unions gave $1.7 million to Quinn's campaign fund. While Illinois is on the verge of financial meltdown and insolvency, our governor cannot cut patronage spending because he has acute conflict-of-interest.

Gov. Quinn is in bed with the tax eaters. And the public sector tax eaters are cannibalizing the private sector taxpayers. Local, county and state government tax and spend $70 billion annually and we only have 13 million residents- that's $22,000 for a family of four! In the private sector, after paying taxes and fees, there is no money left to start or grow a company. And Quinn wants even more taxes.

Families have cut spending, businesses have cut spending. Illinois government at all levels needs to aggressively cut spending: waste, duplication, graft and corruption. Quinn's spending cuts are primarily to all levels of education ($1.3 billion of $2 billion in total proposed cuts), an obvious and irresponsible red herring using a children "straw man" to try and force a tax increase.

Quinn's opponents must be specific with their spending cuts. Here are some suggestions. Eliminate or consolidate of every agency that is not performing on their mission, starting with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity saves $1 billion. Unaccountable grants are 63% of all state spending, and a top-to-bottom forensic audit saves $3-5 billion (Texas saved $8 billion, and Kansas saved $1 billion). Freeze all pay increases; scaling back payroll, pensions and perks of union employees saves $3 billion! Eliminate the shell game of municipal revenue sharing, saving income tax payers $1.2 billion. Bring reverse auctions and competitive bidding to Central Management Services, which saves $1 billion.

Twenty years ago, Pat Quinn founded Citizens Utility Board and routinely made arguments against rate hikes from utility companies. Due to the hike, Quinn would quantify the number of businesses, jobs and families leaving Illinois. But for two years in a row as governor, Quinn has not lead with substantial spending cuts, reform, or streamlining; he has led with income tax rate hikes. By his own arguments, the economic death spiral of people, businesses and jobs exiting Illinois will continue.

Last year, Illinois was 48th in job growth, yet was a high tax state. We rank 36th in education, yet our children lead the nation in violent crime. Illinois is 3rd in the nation in gambling revenues. We lead in bank failures, and home foreclosures. Abortions are at a 10 year high. Last year, 700 manufacturing companies left Illinois. Cook County hasn't created a job since 1990 and the state of Illinois hasn't created a job since 1997.

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Celebrate Red Cross Month in March

Providing emergency relief efforts down the street, across the country and around the world, and ensuring the stability of our nation's blood supply, is in the hands of volunteers who turn compassion into action by giving generously to others in need. The Red Cross seeks to prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. One way you can help support this mission is to become a dedicated blood donor.

Tia Carr, from Oswego, IL., is a bright 14 year-old with a positive attitude. Tia suffers from many diseases, including Common Viable Immune Deficiency. As a result, she needs blood infusions to build her immune system; so she can live as normal and healthy as possible.

"Your blood is needed more than you think – one out of every 10 people admitted to the hospital will need blood or blood products," said Shelly Heiden, CEO of the Heart of America Red Cross Blood Services region. "The hour that you volunteer to donate blood can help save the lives of patients."

Help the American Red Cross prepare to meet the needs of patients like Tia by donating blood during March – Red Cross Month. Each year, the Red Cross collects about six million pints of blood – about half the blood needed in the United States. Be one of the many who help saves lives by making an appointment to give blood today.

About Red Cross Month. March was first declared Red Cross Month in 1943, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a proclamation to remind the American public that the Red Cross is committed to providing disaster assistance and emergency social services as well as blood and blood products, across the United States and worldwide. The Red Cross takes this time to honor the valuable contributions of generous volunteers whose commitment makes its work possible.

How to Donate Blood Simply call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543) or visit givebloodgivelife.org to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license, or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

About the American Red Cross Governed by volunteers and supported by giving individuals and communities, the American Red Cross is the single largest supplier of blood products to hospitals throughout the United States. While local hospital needs are always met first, the Red Cross also helps ensure no patient goes without blood no matter where or when they need it.

In addition to providing nearly half of the nation's blood supply, the Red Cross provides relief to victims of disaster, trains millions in lifesaving skills, serves as a communication link between U.S. military members and their families, and assists victims of international disasters or conflicts.

Free health screenings available at the SXU 7th annual Health Fair

Free health screenings, assessments and information are available at Saint Xavier University's 7th Annual Health Fair from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, March 26, at the Chicago campus Shannon Center, 3700 W. 103rd St. The fair offers free screenings and testing services for blood pressure, prostate, hearing and vision screenings, foot screenings, cervical spine screenings, blood glucose screenings, bone density, injury assessments, postural assessment, shoe assessments and more. Other free services include reflexology and mini chair massages. Nutrition, health, and wellness information is available, as well as healthy cooking demonstrations and 30-minute nutrition and diabetes presentations. Light refreshments will be available from Panera Bread, Great American Bagel, Starbucks, and TCF Bank. Parents can enjoy a children's activity corner with bean bags and activities sponsored by The Little Gym. For more information, please call (773) 298-3592

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Volunteers needed to help Park Lawn

Volunteers of all ages are needed to help Park Lawn in the annual Tag Day events on the weekends of April 2nd/3rd & 16th/17th.

During Tag Days, volunteers across the city give out information about Park Lawn and collect coin donations. All funds collected go directly to the programs and services for individuals with developmental disabilities at Park Lawn.

Students often take this opportunity to volunteer for Park Lawn's Tag Days to receive service hours for school or confirmation.

Safety vests, collection buckets and handouts with Park Lawn's logo will be provided to all volunteers. Convenient time slots and locations throughout the south suburbs of Chicago are available for everyone. No special training is necessary.

For more information on Tag Days or to schedule a time and location, call the Park Lawn Development Office at 708-425-6867 or visit www.parklawn.com.

All proceeds from Tag Days benefit Park Lawn, a local non-profit agency located in Chicago's southwest suburbs that provides vocational services, supported employment, adult developmental training, and residential services to individuals with develop-mental disabilities. More information about Park Lawn can be found at www.parklawn.com.

Safe driving program sponsored by AARP

The Defensive Driving Program sponsored by AARP will be offered at OCS, 3450 W. 97th St., Evergreen Park, IL 60805 Thursday & Friday, April 8 & 9 - 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. Attendance on both days is required. Register as soon as possible, as class size is limited.

This refresher course reviews rules of the road for adults age 50+. Sign up for the class in person or mail check made payable to AARP (including your name, address and phone number) to the Office of Citizens' Services at above address. Fee for AARP members is $12; non-members, $14. Be sure to bring your AARP card to first class for verification. In addition to updating your driving knowledge and skills, you may be eligible for a discount on auto insurance after completing the course.

Monthly meetings for a social group

The EVERGREENS meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 12:00 noon at the H. B. Maher Community Center, 3450 W. 97th St., Evergreen Park. This is a social group, meeting for fun and friendship.

New members are always welcome. Annual membership: $5, with a $1.25 fee per meeting (paid at the door) to cover refreshments.

The next meeting will be April 7. Bring a bag lunch. Officer Butkns will be in charge of the program—Avoiding scams

Oak Lawn Garden Club

On March 25th at the Oak View Center from 9:30 am-12:00pm, located at 4625 West 110th Street, guest speaker Joannie Rocchi will present the topic of Growing Herbs and Cooking with Herbs.

All gardeners' are welcome. For more information, call 708-857-2209

Beautiful Yard Contest

This contest is for Oak Lawn gardens.

The 2010 Annual Beautiful Garden contest runs the month of May. Judging will be the second week of June. Awards are presented at the Village Board Meeting on the 4th Tuesday of June.

Interested gardeners contact Rose Bennett 708-423-1140 or rose68@hcglobal.net

St. Albert' Parish in Burbank has lenten meals

St. Albert the Great Parish invites you to join us for Fish Fry Fridays during Lent 3/19 & 3/26 in Roger Hall (church basement) 5555 West State Road Burbank, IL 60459 (80th & Central) from 4:00 pm to 7:00pm 708-423-0321

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT PARISH is hosting their annual ST. JOSEPH TABLE, SAT., MARCH 20, 2010, 6:00 P.M. in Rogers Hall (church basement) immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass 5555 West State Road (80th & Central Ave.) Burbank, IL 60459 Call, 708-423-0321

Come and enjoy a delicious dinner of Spaghetti and Meatballs, other Pasta Dishes, Casseroles, Meatless Dishes, Salad, Dessert, etc. Bake Sale, Take home some tasty treats! Free will donations will be accepted at the door. All proceeds will benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society of St. Albert the Great Parish to help the needy.

Italian Film Festival USA of Chicago April 9th through May 7, 2010

The 2nd annual Italian Film Festival USA of Chicago will screen the local premieres of five recent, critically and publicly acclaimed Italian films in the Chandelier Room of the Italian Cultural Center at Casa Italia. Films will be shown in Italian with English subtitles. Sponsored by the Italian Cultural Institute of Chicago, the Consulate General of Italy in Chiago and collaboration with the Casa Italia.

THE FRIENDS AT THE MARGHERITA CAFÉ • GLIAMICI DEL BAR MARGHERITA Friday, April 9 • 7:00 pm (PupiAvati, 90 min., 2009) A comic but realistic tale of the lives of the Bar Margherita regulars in 1950s Bologna as narrated through the eyes of young Taddeo. The director borrowed from his own childhood memories to recreate a magical and nostalgic atmosphere.

WE CAN DO THAT • SI PUÒ FARE Friday, April 16 • 7:00 pm (GiulioManfredonia, 111min.,2008)

A Milanese businessman, who lost his job, finds himself managing a cooperative of former mental patients. He encourages everyone to learn a trade, inventing a role for each of them that is amazingly adapted to their abilities. Nominated 2009 Best Film.

IF BY CHANCE • CASOMAI Friday, April 23 • 7:00 pm (Alessandro D'Alatri, 114 min., 2002) Tomasoand Stefaniaueet, fall in love and marry. Their love is sincere, passionate and strong. But they slowly become a couple like so many others: they stop struggling and no longer communicate. But their love is not lost.

GIOVANNA'S FATHER • IL PAPÀ DI GIOVANNA Friday, April 30 • 7:00 pm (PupiAvati,104min.,2008t

Giovanna is a shy and insecure young girl. Her father is devoted to giving her the best education in order to secure a good future for her, but everything will turn into tragedy when Giovanna becomes insanely jealousof her beautiful and generous classmate.

MANY KISSES LATER •EX Friday, May 7 • 7:00 pm (Fausto Brizzi, 120 min. 2009)

Exes never seem to go away and are all pat of your life. If today you are who you are it's also the fault or the merit of your Exes. The film begins with many declarations of love and lots of kisss.. But then, does love go on" Did they indeed live happily ever after? Nominated 2009 Best Film.

All films are free and open to the general public. Chandelier Room of the Italian Cultural Center at Casa Italia, for further information see www.italianfilmfests.org.

American Legion Auxiliary Evergreen Post 854 holds meeting

The Evergreen Park American Legion Auxiliary, Post 854, will hold their monthly meeting on March 22, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. The Auxiliary is organized and committed to helping veterans and their families, active service men and women, and the community, as well as to promote patriotism. Information about eligibility and joining the Auxiliary may be obtained from Dian Kinahan at 708-229-2129.

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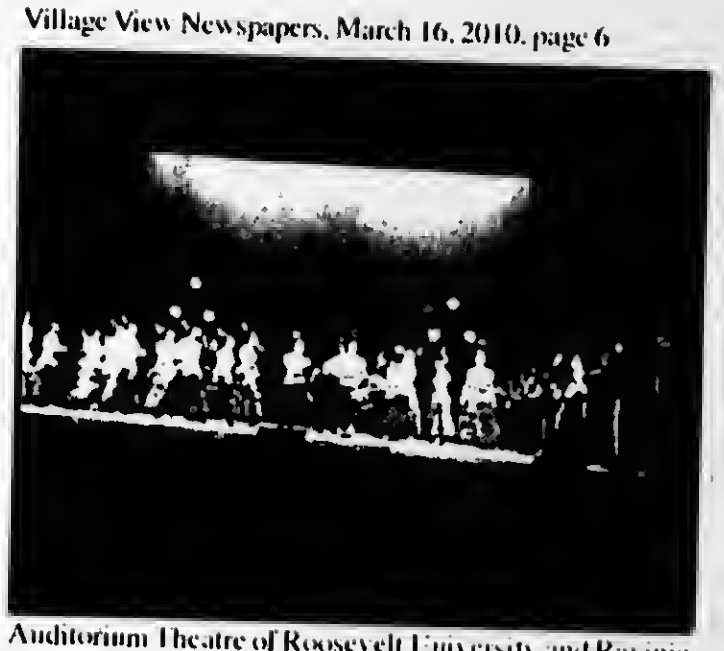

Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University and Ravinia Festival co-present the world renowned Ballet Folklorico De Mexico De Amalia Hernandez.

Ballet Folklorico De Mexico De Amalia Hernandez performed in Chicago

On March 13 and 14, the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University presented a group from Mexico. This group was a traditional dance group founded by Amalia Hernandez in 1952. The New York Times declared that the company offered a fast paced, entertaining show that can make viewers want to rush right off to Mexico.

Ballet Folklorico De Mexico is currently under the artistic direction of Hernandez's daughter Norma Lopez, and has been distinguished with more than 200 awards recognizing its artistic merits. This experience gives the audience the insights to Aztec, Guerrero, culture and many more traditional, classical formative history of the Mexican people.

In speaking with a gentleman sitting next to me, he stated that he continues to follow the troupe whenever this troupe is in Chicago. It was five years ago that they were here.

This event starts the year long 2010 celebration of Mexican history in Chicago. There will be more Mexican events throughout the Chicagoland area throughout the year. Contact the city of Chicago Special Event Office and ask for the list of Mexican event and locations.

The Auditorium Theatre is located at 50 E. Congress Parkway, is an independent, not for profit organization committed to presenting the finest in international cultural and community programing.

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Evergreen Park Recreation Schedule

WIFFLE-BALL (AGES 3, 4 & 5 YR OLDS) Boys and girls who are residents of Evergreen Park and are 3, 4, & 5, years old may choose to participate on Wednesday, Thursday, or Saturday all games are held at the Activity Center t-ball fields (3220 w. 98th street). Wednesday and Thursday start time is 3:30 P.M. Saturday start time is 10:00 A.M. The fee is $50. 00 for 6 weeks. T ball begins on April 21, 22, or 24, depending on which day you registered for.

SPRING TUMBLING

Open to returning and new students. All students must be 4 by April 21st .

Classes will be held at the Activity Center (3220 w. 98th st.) beginning on Wednesday April 21st , and will run for 6 weeks. Times are between 4:30 -8:00 p.m. (pre-beginner - 45 minute classes and tumbling 1 and up are 1 hour classes) returning tumblers will be placed according to their skills by their present instructor. $50.00 for pre-beginners & $55.00 for tumbling 1 and up for 6 weeks.

FAMILY EASTER HAPPENINGS

Please join us for our Annual Easter party. Have a continental breakfast with the Easter Bunny .

Bring your camera and take a picture with the Bunny, make and take an Easter craft - watch Easter cartoons, dye an Easter egg, and have a lot of family fun!! Children ages - babies through 11 years old are welcome to participate. This all happens at the Community Center, 3450 W. 97th St., on Saturday; March 27th , at 10:00 a.m., ending at 11:30 a.m., and its all,, Free, So don't miss it! All children must be accompanied by an adult.

MOM & CHILD CLASSES - DADS ARE WELCOME TOO! Mom & babies - 3 mo. - 12 mo Mom & tiny tots - 13 months to 27 months Fee: $50.00 for 8 weeks Mom & tots - 28 months to 48 months Instructor: Kathy Jamulis Classes will begin the week of March 22nd Monday Tuesday Mom & tots 6:00-6:45 p.m. Mom & tiny tots 10:00-10:45 am Mom & Babies 10:00 - 10:35 Mom & tots 10:45 - 11:30 am Wednesday Thursday Mom & Tiny tots 10:00-10:45 am Mom & Tiny tots 10:00-10:45 am Mom & Tots 10:45 - 11:30 am

PRESCHOOL OPEN GYM (3-5 YR OLDS) This gives new meaning to the phrase "playing at the park!" There's always perfect weather as your favorite pre-schooler energizes in the Community center. Practice free throws at the mini hoop, crawl thru tunnels, hop on hippityhop balls and much more. Drop your child off and let them burn off a little energy and have a lot of fun!Day: Tuesday, starting - March 23rd - time: 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Fee: $55.00 for 8 weeks Location: Community center Instructor: Kathy Jamulis

STEP & STRENGTH TRAINING/STEP & ABS 30 minutes of cardiovascular by using the step and 30 minutes of strength training using handheld weights, tubing, exercise bands and the ball. Join step or strength or both classes 1,2,3, or 4 days a week starts week of March 22nd step strength step & abs class 1: m,t,w,th class 1: m,t,w,th class 1: friday 9:00-9:30 am 9:30-10:00 am 9:00-9:35 a.m. class 2: M & W class 2: M & W 6:45-7:15 PM, 7:15-7:45 PM fee: Both Step & Strength Step or Strength Step & Abs 1 day - $30.00 1 day - $16.00 $16.00 for 8 weeks 2 days - $55.00 2 days - $30.00 3 days - $70.00 4 days - $85.00 Location: Community Center - Nursery available for a.m. classes

For additional information please e-mail us eprecreation@yahoo.com or call: 708-229-3373.

Happy St. Patrick and St. Joesph Days

Village of Orland Park Arts Commission present a concert

The Village of Orland Park Arts Commission will present the Vienna Waltz Ensemble on Sunday, March 21 at the Orland Park Cultural Center. The trio, which includes two violins and a double bass, performs rare 19th Century music from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, providing anecdotes and historical commentary between songs.

The group will perform from 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m., with a reception with light refreshments to follow. Tickets are $20 each and may be purchased at the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue.

For more information, call 403-6140.

Are you have having a "Shop in your Community Sale"
Then advertise with Village View
Call 312-624-8996

Help Homeless Veterans

There will be a City Wide Clothing Drive sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars on March 27th, 2010. The drop off hours are from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please use the south side drop off points

The posts for the Veteran of Foreign War are: Post 8821 5104 S. Archer Ave., Post 6863, 7250 W. 63rd St., Post 5414, 13301 S. Brainard, Post 5216, 4325 S. Honore, Post 3940, 3743 W. 63rd Street, Post 177, 10537 S. Ridgeland, Chicago Ridge, IL.

We need clothes, jackets, coats, socks, shoes, etc. for both adult males and adult females.

For further information, please contact your local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post or call 773-403-3789 or email vfw8821@att.net

Meet the Authors
Presentations and Book Signings

Lisa See
Sunday, April 11
1:00 pm

Lisa See, is the author of the critically acclaimed international best seller, *"Snow Flower and the Secret Fan"* (2005)

See's new novel, *"Shanghai Girls"*, about two Chinese sisters who journey to California in the 1930s, delves into forgotten history in a story of immigration, identity, war, and love.

Jeff Zaslow
Friday, April 23
7:00 pm

Jeffrey Zaslow, sparked a worldwide phenomenon with his Wall Street Journal column featuring the final lecture of Carnegie Mellon Professor Randy Pausch. *"The Last Lecture"* by Pausch and Zaslow, is a #1 New York Times best-seller book which has been translated into 44 languages

Jeff's latest project, *"Highest Duty"*, is co-authored with Captain "Sully" Sullenberger, the pilot who successfully landed a damaged plane in New York's Hudson River in 2009.

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Blue Island Chamber hold annual installation dinner

The Chamber will hold our annual installation dinner banquet in the Ritz-Carlton-like lobby of MetroSouth Medical Center on March 27, 2010 from 6-9 p.m. This black tie optional event is open to all Chamber members, city officials, local business people and residents.

Fabulous food Check out this menu: Mixed field greens with Granny Smith apple segments, candied peanuts and caramel citrus vinaigrette. Chicken breast Montrachet - chicken breast stuffed with goat cheese and sundried tomatoes topped with chive butter, roasted carrots, oven-roasted red potatoes, and chocolate layer cake.

Live entertainment Enjoy live music from a 3-piece jazz quartet and after our sit-down dinner we'll recognize outstanding businesses and leaders in our community. There will be complimentary wine and Champagne, as well as a cash bar. $50 per person ($55 for nonmembers). $350 for a table of 8.

Please e-mail the Chamber at blueislandchamber@sbcglobal.net if you wish to join our dinner committee.

Three senior members of St. Rita of Cascia High School's Varsity Soccer team signed letters of intent on Wednesday, March 3rd for Calumet of St. Joseph College in Whiting, Indiana to play soccer for the Crimson Wave. Pictured (left to right): Jorge Barba '10 (Queen of the Universe), Matthew Carlson '10 (Wilkins Junior High), and Pedro Gomez '10 (Stevenson).

Three St. Rita of Cascia High School Seniors

St. Rita of Cascia High School's Varsity Soccer team signed letters of intent on Wednesday, March 3rd for Calumet of St. Joseph College in Whiting, Indiana to play soccer for the Crimson Wave.

The three Ritanien were Captains Matthew Carlson (Wilkins Junior High), Pedro Gomez (Stevenson), and Goalkeeper Jorge Barba (Queen of the Universe). Carlson and Barba have been members of the St. Rita's Soccer team all four years, while Gomez joined the team in his sophomore year. At Calumet of St. Joesph College Carlson and Gomez are planning to major in Business while Barba is planning on majoring in Communications.

The young men were joined for the signing by their parents and relatives, along with St. Rita Director of Soccer Operations Mike Carlson, , who is also Matthew's father, President Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A. '83, Athletic Director Mike Zunica, and Calumet of St. Joseph College Director of Athletics and Head Men's Soccer Coach Peter Haze Haring.

Calumet of St. Joseph College is an N.A.I.A. member school in the C.C.A.C. (Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference).

Take off pounds sensibly

Hello my name is Dawn Ahnefeld and I am leader of TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) chapter IL 2121, Hometown.

We are a non for profit support group for individuals that would like support and encouragement on their journey to a healthier life-style. We are having an free no obligation open house scheduled for March 25, 2010 at Hammond Hall 4331 Southwest Highway Hometown, Illinois.

For additional information contact Dawn Ahnefeld 708-499-1633. Wondering if we have time to have this ad posted in your paper

Organizing for American announces vital information about health care

OFA- Illinois Director Dave Seman: CBO Score Shows that Health Reform Will Cover Tens of Millions Without Adding to the Deficit

The Congressional Budget Office Found that the Senate Reform Bill Would Reduce the Deficit by $118 Billion Over Ten Years

Organizing for America (OFA)-Illinois Director Dave Seman today released the following statement regarding the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) findings that the Senate-approved health insurance reform bill expected to be considered in the House of Representatives would cut the deficit by $118 billion in the first ten years:

"The Congressional Budget Office today confirmed that not only will reform ensure American families and businesses have control over their health care choices, but it will reduce the nation's unsustainable budget deficit by $118 billion dollars over the next ten years. The President's goals to reduce the skyrocketing cost of health care for working families and to do it in a fiscally responsible way are met by this proposal.

"This news speaks to Illinoisans who are concerned about adding to the national deficit, but who are also eager for reform that brings them more security and stability in their family's health insurance coverage.

"As OFA volunteers in Illinois work in their community and discuss with their neighbors the President's proposal for health insurance reform that reduces the cost of quality care and expands access, they'll spread the facts about reform and the deficit-reducing effects that will save taxpayers $118 billion."

Join in the March Towards a Breast Cancer Cure

The 11th Annual Beverly March Against Breast Cancer will be held this Mother's Day, May 9, 2010. This very special event is the largest walk in Chicago's Southwest area with proceeds to benefit Little Company of Mary Hospital. The three-mile route starts in Ridge Park (96th and Longwood Drive) and includes historic Longwood Drive. To help alleviate parking, a bus service will transport walkers from the east end of Little Company of Mary's parking lot at 95th and California between 7 to 7:40 a.m. and drop off at 95th and Longwood Drive. Return transportation continues until 10:15 a.m. Also, participants who are unable to walk are invited to ride the trolley throughout the route.

The annual event has raised nearly $1 million for breast cancer treatment. Register early to receive a free T-shirt with your $30 entry fee. The entry fee for children ages 18 and under is $15. Same-day registration is $5 more and shirt sizes are not guaranteed. To register for the 11th Annual Beverly Breast Cancer Walk please www.beverlybreastcancerwalk.org or call 708.229.5256. To take a free breast cancer on-line risk assessment please visit www.pursuingpurfreecancer.org/

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Maundy Thursday Service & Sedar Meal
Thursday, April 1st, 6:30pm
Celebrate the Last Supper of our Lord
Come touch and see the Crown of Thorns
Good Friday is April 2nd, 7:30pm
Procession of the Cross
Easter Sunday is April 4th,
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MAA Hosts 6th and 7th grade Volleyball Tournament

The Mount Assisi Academy Athletic Department, working in conjunction with MAA's Friars Club, hosted its annual 6th and 7th grade volleyball tournament over the March 6-7 weekend. Eight 6th grade teams participated Saturday and four 7th grade teams battled it out for top honors.

In the 6th grade tournament, first place honors were captured by spikers from Christ the King Elementary School. The team from St. Daniel the Prophet placed second, followed by Noonan Academy and Our Lady of the Ridge in third and fourth place, respectively. Additional 6th grade teams participating included St. Catherine of Alexandria, St. John Fisher White and Blue teams, and St. Michael. The 6th grade All-Tournament team consisted of Chanel Burns – Christ the King, Carly Vandenberg – Noonan Academy, Olivia Seweryn – Our Lady of the Ridge, Kassandra Guerrero – St. Daniel the Prophet, and Christina Healy and Nicole Stauffer from St. John Fisher.

Sunday's 7th grade tournament featured teams from St. Christopher, Noonan Academy, Cardinal Bernardin and Our Lady of the Ridge elementary schools. St. Christopher's squad won first place honors and Noonan Academy came in second place, followed by Cardinal Bernardin in third place and Our Lady of the Ridge claiming fourth place. Members of the 7th grade All-Tournament team included Breanna Graffeo and Laura Roethle of St. Christopher Elementary School; Grace Burchett and Angela Duensing of Noonan Academy; Lauren Riebel of Cardinal Bernardin; and Nicole Pratl of Our Lady of the Ridge.

For more information about Mount Assisi Academy Athletics, please go to www.mtassisi.org.

A conference developed for parents, educators, healthcare and childcare providers

Parent Institute Day is a conference for anyone who interacts with children. Good Shepherd Center is honored to host the largest bilingual conference in the Chicago area, which attracts parents, educators, healthcare and childcare providers. The 19th Annual Parent Institute Day will be held on Friday, March 26th, from 7:30 a.m. (early bird workshops) to 3:00 p.m. at Prairie State College, in Chicago Heights .

This year's conference focuses on improving the communication between children and adults to provide the supports needed to assist children to be strong and confident in today's world. Forty individual workshops in English and Spanish include relationship building, health and wellness, children's attitudes, special needs, educational issues, dating, parenting styles, and much more. The English Keynote Speaker is psychologist Dr. John Farrell, presenting on the best selling book "The Five Love Languages of Children" by Gary Chapman.

The Spanish Keynote Speaker will be Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch from Educational Achievement Services, in Las Vegas , Nevada , who will consider and reflect on the Hispanic communities' traditions, the value of history, and the importance of development and growth of the community.

Rave revenues were abundant from last year's conference attendees. The registration cost is most affordable at $35.00 per person by March 15th and $40.00 beginning March 16th. This includes a continental breakfast and a choice of lunch. CEU, CPDU, DCFS and EI continuing education credits will be available. On-line registration is encouraged at www.gscenter.org or registrants may call 708-957-2600 x 227. Prairie State College is located at 202 S. Halsted Street , Chicago Heights . For information on vendor space at the conference please call 708-335-0020 x 20.

Letters to the Editor

Few consumer bills are as important to seniors as the Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act (HR 2057). Older Americans often live on a fixed income and many rely on trusted, reasonably-priced neighborhood repair shops to keep their vehicles serviced, repaired and operating safely. With thousands of car dealers closed, and many others closing, those independent repair shops are critical to keep seniors on the road.

The Right to Repair Act ensures that seniors can continue to enjoy the affordability and convenience of having their vehicles serviced locally. The bill makes certain that car owners, not car companies, retain the choice of where to take the vehicle for service by requiring equal access to repair information, safety bulletins and tools from vehicle manufacturers.

Without the Right to Repair Act, seniors may find their independence severely compromised if they are forced to go a car dealer for service and repairs, particularly if there is no dealership in their area. Worse yet, they may decide to forgo critical safety repairs because the distance to a dealership is too great.

RetireSafe strongly urges Congress to pass the Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act to protect older Americans nationwide. We encourage vehicle owners to make their voices heard by visiting www.righttorepair.org and sending a letter to their U.S. Representative in support of the Right to Repair Act.

Sincerely,
Thair Phillips
President
RetireSafe
1616 H Street, NW.
Suite 902
Washington, DC 20006
www.retiresafe.org
(202) 628-5095

Continuing Letter to the Editor February 28, 2010

The recent primary election for Commissioner of the Cook County Board of Review was hard fought and I want to express my gratitude to all those who volunteered for our campaign to bring professional competence and political balance to the Board of Review. To those voters who supported me on election-day, I say thank you.

To those who supported my opponent, I look forward to earning your vote in the general election. And to those who did not participate in the primary election, I ask that you pay close attention to the qualifications of candidates for every office in the general election and cast your ballot for those who are most competent to serve in the offices for which they are running.

Sincerely,
Dan Patlak
Republican nominee
Commissioner, Cook County Board of Review

Dear Editor,

As the ravages of winter subside and temperatures rise, there is probably a pothole out there with your name on it. Record cold temperatures, snow and rainfall in many parts of the country have created the perfect storm for the motorists' dreaded "perils of potholes period."

Drivers know immediately when they hit a pothole. The heart-stopping, teeth-jarring noise is hard to mistake. However, it's not always immediately clear if hitting the pothole caused damage to the vehicle, and to what extent.

Hitting a pothole can damage tires, wheels, steering and suspension, wheel alignment and more. The Car Care Council recommends that motorists who experience any of the following warning signs after hitting a pothole should have a professional technician at their local repair shop inspect the vehicle.

· Loss of control, swaying when making routine turns, bottoming-out on city streets or bouncing excessively on rough roads. These are indicators that the steering and suspension may have been damaged. The steering and suspension are key safety-related systems. Together, they largely determine your car's ride and handling. Key components are shocks and/or struts, the steering knuckle, ball joints, the steering rack/box, bearings, seals and hub units and tie rod ends.

· Pulling in one direction, instead of maintaining a straight path, and uneven tire wear. These symptoms mean there's an alignment problem. Proper wheel alignment is important for the lifespan of tires and helps ensure safe handling.

· Low tire pressure, bulges or blisters on the sidewalls, or dents in the rim. These problems will be visible and should be checked out as soon as possible as tires are the critical connection between your car and the road in all sorts of driving conditions.

If you've hit a pothole, the Car Care Council can help you find a repair shop in your area. The council's Web site features a "Find a Shop" locator at http://www.carcare.org/carcare_location.

Sincerely,
Rich White
Executive Director
Car Care Council
7101 Wisconsin Ave.
Bethesda, MD 20814
301-654-6664

Have some fun at a Penny Social

Hometown-Murray VFW Ladies Auxiliary #9773 is having their annual Penny Social (Silent Auction), Sunday, March 28th, 2010, at the post home, 9092 Main St. Hometown, IL., from 1pm till 5pm.

There will be Nickel, Dime, and Quarter Tables, A Sorry Table, and Raffles. What is a Sorry Table? Come out and see, you won't be 'sorry'. Many items to choose from. Antiques, Collectables, Jewelry, Toys, household items, and more! Food will be available for purchase. For more info call - Gerri 708-499-6499/Pat- 773-284-2175

Local Chambers Host Speed Networking

Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 25 from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm and plan on stopping in at the Orland Park Civic Center, located at 14750 Ravinia.

This event will offer a comfortable networking setting for all. The structured networking will begin at 5:00 pm. Members will have 2 minutes to network with fellow attendees before moving on to another attendee.

There will also be a separate room for individuals who choose to mix and mingle while enjoying the light food and drinks provided. Best thing of all is the cost: $10 for pre-registered chamber members and $15 for pre-registered non-chamber members. Walk-ins, both members and non-members, will be charged $20 at the door. Download registration forms www.orlandparkchamber.org. For more information, call 708-349-2972.

Billy Elliot begins March 18th and only ten $25 rush seats per night

Billy Elliot the Musical's Chicago premiere is only one week away. Performances begin Thursday, March 18, 2010 at the Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Oriental Theatre (24 W. Randolph St.). In addition, the producers, along with Broadway In Chicago, are excited to announce that $25 rush seats will be available for every performance.

Ten rush seats will be available for only $25 at each performance. Rush seats go on sale at 10 a.m. the day of each performance (Sundays at 11 a.m.) at the Ford Center/ Oriental Theatre box office (24 W. Randolph St.). Additional seats, subject to availability at select performances, may be made available. There is a limit of two tickets per patron; the seats are limited view.

Time magazine recently named Billy Elliot the "BEST MUSICAL OF THE DECADE." This incredible honour adds to the show's overwhelming acclaim and recognition that includes ten 2009 Tony Awards®, including Best Musical, as well as Best Musical awards from the NY Drama Critics Circle, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Drama League.

Rotating in the title role of 'Billy' are Tommy Batchelor, Giuseppe Bausilio, Cesar Corrales and J.P. Viernes. Starring in Billy Elliot are Emily Skinner (Mrs. Wilkinson), Armand Schultz (Dad), Cynthia Darlow (Grandma), Chicagoan Patrick Mulvey (Tony), Keean Johnson and Gabriel Rush (Michael), Chicagoan Samuel Pergande (Billy's Older Self), Jim Ortlieb (George), Chicagoan Susie McMonagle (Mum), Chicagoan Blake Hammond (Mr. Braithwaite) and Maria Connelly (Debbie).

Also featured are Matt Allen, Jason Babinsky, Chicagoan Elijah Barker, Madison Barnes, Cindy Benson, Sara Brians, Chicagoan Tony Clarno, Abby Church, Christine DeFillipo, Alexandra Dell'Edera, Faith Fetscher, Susan Haefner, Ryan Kasprzak, Chicagoan Kayla King, Kent Lewis, Will Mann, Kate Marilley, Spencer Milford, Brittany Nicholas, Chicagoan Mark Page, Mitch Poulos, Emily Richardson, Annelise Ritacca, Mason Roberts, Michaeljon Slinger, Jaclyn Taylor Ruggiero, Jamie Torcellini, Nicholas Torres, Brionna Trilling and Kayla Vanderbilt.

Billy Elliot the Musical is the joyous celebration of one boy's journey to make his dreams come true. Set in a small town, the story follows Billy as he stumbles out of the boxing ring and into a ballet class, discovering a passion that takes him by surprise, and takes his whole family on an incredibly uplifting adventure.

Featuring music by Elton John, book and lyrics by Lee Hall, choreographed by Peter Darling and directed by Stephen Daldry, Billy Elliot opened at Broadway's Imperial Theatre on November 13, 2008.

Billy Elliot the Musical is produced by Tim Bevan, Eric Fellner, Jon Finn and Sally Greene. Angela Morrison and David Furnish are Executive Producers. The production features scenic design by Ian MacNeil, costume design by Nicky Gillibraud, lighting design by Rick Fisher and sound design by Paul Arditti. Musical supervision and orchestrations are by Martin Koch.

Preview performances of Billy Elliot begin March 18 at the Ford Center for the Performing Arts, Oriental Theatre (24 W. Randolph St.), and opening night is Sunday, April 11, 2010. Individual tickets range in price from $28 to $100. A select number of premium seats are also available.

Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St. and 18 W. Monroe St.), the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000, all Ticketmaster retail locations (including Hot Tix and select Carson Pirie Scott, Coconuts and fye stores), and online at www.BroadwayInChicago.com. For groups of 15 or more, call (312) 977-1710.

Endgame

By Samuel Beckett

Directed by Ensemble Member Frank Galati

April 1 – June 6, Steppenwolf Theatre Company continues its 2009-2010 season, an exploration of the theme of belief, with Endgame written by Samuel Beckett and directed by ensemble member Frank Galati. Endgame, featuring ensemble members Ian Bradford, Francis Guinan, Martha Lavey and William Petersen, plays April 1 – June 6, 2010 in Steppenwolf's Downstairs Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted.

Beckett's absurd comic masterpiece follows Hamm, a blind man unable to stand, and his servant Clov, who is unable to sit. Pestered by his parents, Hamm directs this unusual family through their daily rituals, awaiting the end of everything. Swerving from the magnificent to the miniscule and from the profound to the profoundly ridiculous, a powerful all-ensemble cast brings to life this epic tale set in a tiny room. Endgame is a compelling exploration of the stories we construct to make sense of our lives.

Nobel Prize-winning playwright Samuel Beckett is the author of more than 25 plays and novels including Waiting for Godot, Happy Days and Krapp's Last Tape, produced at Steppenwolf in 1978. An adaptor and director, as well as an actor, Tony® Award-winner Frank Galati's Steppenwolf credits include Kafka on the Shore, after the quake and The Grapes of Wrath. He also appeared as Prospero last season in The Tempest. Broadway directing credits include Ragtime and The Grapes of Wrath.

The design team for Endgame includes: James Schuette (sets and costumes), James Ingalls (lights) and Andre Pluess (sound). Malcolm Ewen is the Stage Manager and Michelle Medvin is the Assistant Stage Manager.

Dates: Previews: April 1 thru April 10, 2010. Opening: Sunday, April 11 at 6:00 p.m. Regular Run: April 13 – June 6, 2010 Curtain Times: Tues. through Sun. at 7:30 p.m. Sunday evening performances through May 9 only. Sat. and Sun. matinees at 3:00 p.m. Wed. matinees on May 12, 19, 26 and June 2 at 2:00 p.m.

Note: there are no 3:00 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. Performance on Sunday, April 11 or Saturday, May 8. Ticket prices: Previews: $20-$53 Regular Run: $20-$77.

Twenty $20 tickets are available at Audience Services beginning at 11:00 a.m. on the day of each performance (1:00 p.m. for Sunday performances). Half-price rush tickets are available one hour before each show. Student discounts available.

Audience Services: 1650 N. Halsted. 312-335-1650

Online ticketing at www.steppenwolf.org

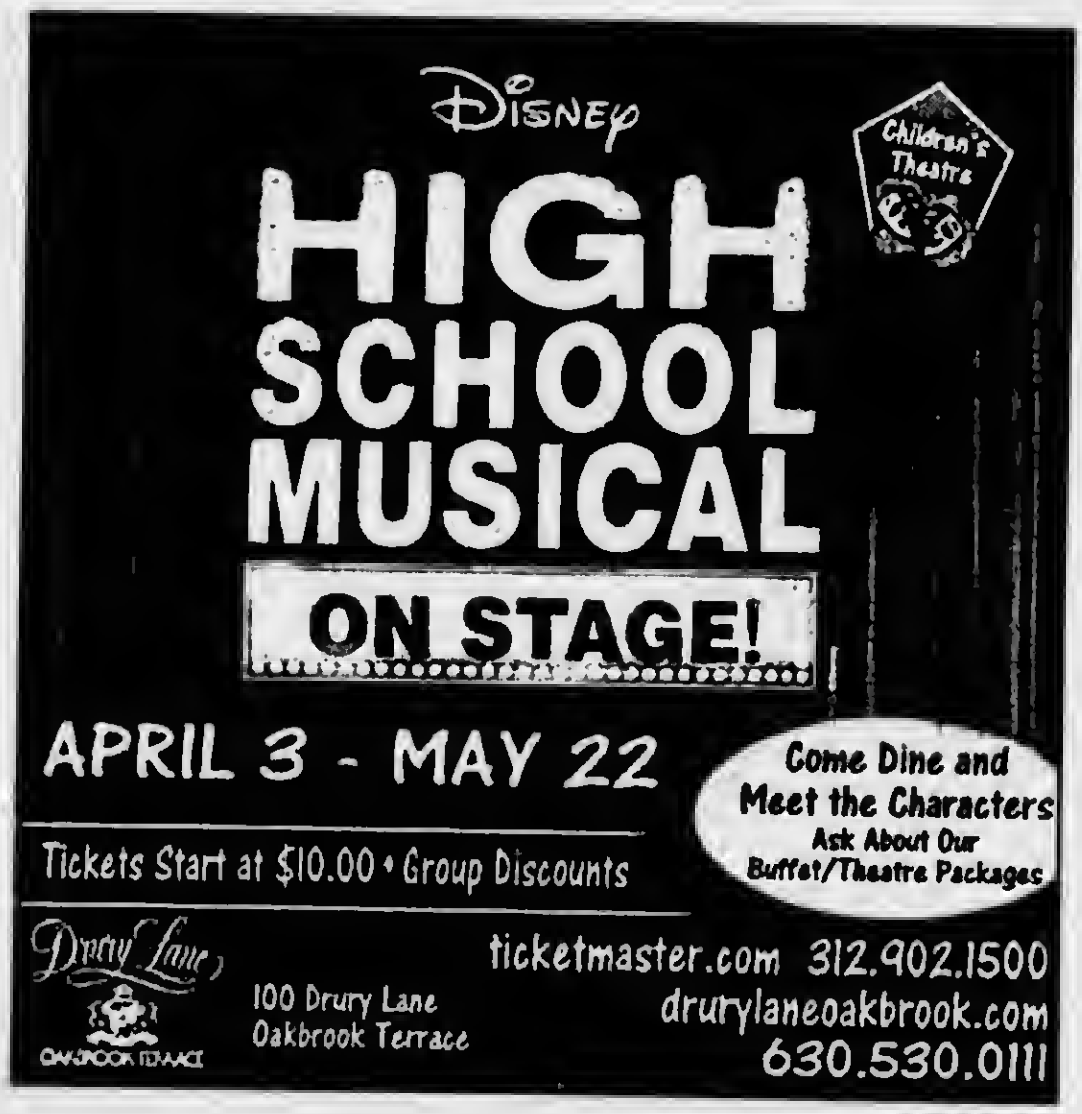
The presentation of THE ILLUSION began March 11

Court Theatre continues its 55th season with Pierre Corneille's The Illusion, freely adapted by Tony Kushner and directed by Artistic Director Charles Newell. The production will run March 11 – April 11, 2010 at Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Avenue. Tony Kushner brings his sophisticated style and breathtaking language to the French Baroque's most powerful romance. A father's attempt to find his estranged son raises the curtain on a world of theatrical magic, outrageous humor, and true, complicated love. The Illusion features Kevin Gudahl (Amanuensis/ Geronte), Timothy Edward Kane (Matamore), Elizabeth Ledo (Elicia/Lyse/Clarina), John Reeger (Pridamant), Kareem Bandealy (Pleribo/ Adraste/Prince Florilame), Michael Mahler (Calisto/ Clindor/Theogenes), Chris Sullivan (Alcandre), and Hillary Clemens (Melibea/ Isabelle/Hippolyta).

The creative team includes Collette Pollard (scenic design), Jacqueline Firkins (costume design), John Culbert (lighting design), Joshua Horvath (sound design).

The production stage manager is William Collins. Curtain times are Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. with Saturday matinees at 3 p.m.; Sundays at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are $32 to $40 for preview performances; $38 to $56 for regular run performances.

Tickets are available at the Box Office, 5535 S. Ellis Avenue, Chicago; (773) 753-4472 or online at www.CourtTheatre.org. Student and senior discounts available. Groups of 10 or more may purchase tickets by calling Milan Pejnovich at (773) 834-3243.



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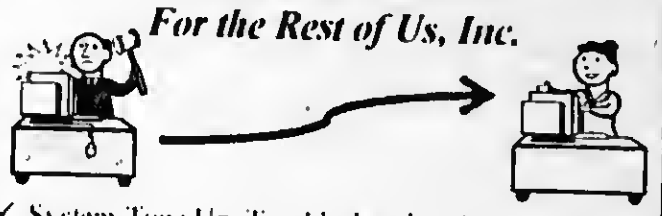

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Early bird special ends March 31, 2010

Things to do in Evergreen Park

Fraternal Order of Police Fish and Sports Show 7-11pm, March 19th at 115 Bourbon Street. Full buffet, draft beer, wine and soda. Raffles & Prizes. Donation $20 per person $25 at the door. Free Valet Parking.

Registration is ongoing for Evergreen Park Rec Dept "Spring Things" Call 708-229-3373 for more information.

Senior Citizens' council of Evergreen Park will host "Memories to Go", a village-wide garage sale, on Sat. May 1st from 9 am to 2 pm at Yukich Field, 89th and Kedzie. Registration is going on now. Call 708-422-8776 to reserve your space.

Vienna Waltz Ensemble

The Village of Orland Park Arts Commission will present the Vienna Waltz Ensemble on Sunday, March 21 at the Orland Park Cultural Center. The trio, which includes two violins and a double bass, performs rare 19th Century music from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, providing anecdotes and historical commentary between songs. The group will perform from 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m., with a reception with light refreshments to follow. Tickets are $20 each and may be purchased at the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. For more information, call 403-6140.

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Sustainability for businesses focus of Moraine Valley Green Forum

Employers in the restaurant, hotel, hospitality/tourism, and entertainment industries, as well as other businesses, can learn how to stop wasting money and save energy through the newest trends in sustainability at the third annual Green Forum hosted by Moraine Valley Community College and the Economic Development Council for the Southwest Suburbs. The event will be on Wednesday, April 14, from 8 a.m. to noon, in the Moraine Business and Conference Center (Building M), on campus, 9000 W College Pkwy, Palos Hills.

Tickets are $35 per person. The exhibitor's fee is $165, which includes breakfast for two people and a skirted six-foot table. The program will feature a panel discussion and an exhibitor's forum. This event is co-sponsored by Moraine Valley's Workforce Development and Community Services area, the SouthtownStar, Chicago Southland Tourism Bureau, Smart Energy Design Assistance Center, Rose Paving, and Waste Management.

The theme of this year's forum will be energy savings to enhance the bottom line and reduce the environmental footprint. The panel of experts will discuss what actions can be taken and how they can be financed, and will provide examples of successful endeavors. Exhibitors will showcase products relevant to green energy savings.

The panelists are Deborah Popely, associate director of the Delta Institute, who will give an overview of the forces driving the green hospitality and travel movement and how energy considerations fit into environmental standards being developed for the field. Don Fournier, program manager of the Illinois Smart Energy Design Assistance Center, who will discuss how efficiency enhances the bottom line while reducing the environmental footprint. Steven Babb, manager of Business Programs at ComEd, and Kim Dupery, senior funding manager at the Illinois Development Finance Authority, both will discuss their incentive programs. Jonathan Bartlett, general manager of Hotel Monoco, and Joe Terrell, owner of Denny's restaurant in Joliet, will conclude the program with their "stop wasting money, save energy" success stories.

For more information on sponsorship being an exhibitor, or registration, contact Moraine Valley's Workforce Development and Community Services area at (708) 974-5735 or visit wdes@morainevalley.edu.

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Far South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Forest / Orland Park / Tinley Park

Volume 8 Number 6

March 16, 2010

Tinley Park approves round about resolution

By Matt Mayer

The village board at the March 2, 2010 Board of Trustees meeting approved a resolution pertaining to the implementation of an Intergovernmental agreement between the Village of Tinley Park and the Illinois Department of Transportation - preliminary engineering for the 183rd Street roundabout. During December 2009, the village adopted an amendment to the comprehensive plan for the village known as the "Legacy Plan" for downtown Tinley Park.

The plan promoted a set of principles for future growth and development of Oak Park Avenue from 167th to 183rd Streets. Part of the plan includes the development of a roundabout at the intersection of Oak Park Avenue and 183rd Street. The village has secured financial assistance for the project through the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Under the proposed agreement, the FHA would provide 80-percent of the funding for the primary engineering cost of $144,000 -the village portion is $36,000. Funding for the village portion of the engineering costs will be factored into the 2010/2011 fiscal year budgets. Engineering is scheduled to commence in 2011 and 2012, and construction slated to commence in October 2013.

Other highlights: Mike Wasserburg, Executive Director of Public Action to Deliver Shelter (PADS), addressed the board in regards to PADS recently receiving support from the South Suburban Mayor and Managers Association (SSMMA) for their efforts to develop a permanent homeless shelter for the south suburban region. PADS has begun visiting local municipalities in order to inform the public of their mission. Also Kelly Johnson's picture of the fountain at Zahrocki Plaza at twilight was the winner of the 2010/2011-vehicle sticker contest. This was the first year the contest was held and the village received over 150 pictures from residents.

Orland Park Area Chamber hosts monthly Membership Meeting

Speaker helps declutter your life

The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its Monthly Membership Meeting at Silver Lake Country Club on Wednesday, March 24th at 7:45 a.m. This month's guest speaker, Lara Vander Ploeg, will discuss "Declutter Your Life from the Inside Out!" The owner of the life-inspiring company birdseyeview, Lara brings a rich and diverse background to all of her work. She has worked and advised numerous non-profits in development, public relations, and marketing endeavors for over fifteen years. Combining her degrees in Psychology, Theology, and Fine Art, she is boldly uses her diverse skill set to creatively inspire individuals and teams to 'live out loud' with passion and purpose. Members and non-members are welcome. The cost is $13 members/$15 non-members and at the door attendees. Price includes breakfast. To RSVP for this event or for more information on becoming a member of the Orland Park Area Chamber call 708-349-2972 or visit their website www.orlandparkchamber.org.

Tinley Park man recieves Dentist of the Year Award

Dr. Dennis Siemsen Receives Optometrist of the Year Award from the Minnesota Optometric Association

Dennis Siemsen, O.D., M.H.P.E. was awarded the Optometrist of the Year Award by the Minnesota Optometric Association (MOA) at its Annual Meeting Awards Banquet recently in Minneapolis. Dr. Siemsen is a native of Tinley Park, IL and graduated from Tinley Park high school. He practices at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, where he was the first optometrist to join the Clinic.

The MOA Optometrist of the Year Award is presented to an outstanding optometrist who has shown great involvement in the optometric community as well as in his or her local community. Dr. Siemsen has been an active member of the American Optometric Association, the Minnesota Optometric Association, Low Vision Diplomate of the American Academy of Optometry. He continues to serve on the MOA's Low Vision and Children's Vision Committees. In 2009 the Illinois College of Optometry Alumni Council presented him with an award for Professional Achievement.

Dr. Siemsen's interest in Low Vision Rehabilitation has taken him throughout the state in the volunteer program to offer vision screening to needy individuals. His special interests include helping individuals read with macular degeneration and education of visually impaired children. He has worked extensively with teachers for the blind and visually impaired. He is widely respected for his medical education efforts.

Dr. Siemsen was raised in Tinley Park, Illinois. He is a graduate of the Illinois College of Optometry. He completed a residency at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Kansas City, MO, prior to completing a Masters degree in Health Professional Education at the University of Illinois Medical School.

OPACC to host world's larges speed networking event

Gary Polodna of SOAR Creative Group, Sanette Isa-Bruton of Guaranteed Rate Mortgage and Mark Macinlewicz of MB Financial discuss promotional literature during a Strictly Networking event that was held by the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber will be one of 15 chambers to host the World's Largest Speed Networking Event on Thursday, March 25th at the Orland Park Civic Center from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For information on the Speed Networking event or to become a member of the Orland Park Area Chamber call 708-349-2972 or visit their website at www.orlandparkchamber.org.

Centennial School Celebrates Talent with Variety Show

Centennial School (11410 Creek Crossing Drive Orland Park) students Ella Hase and Trevor Ward (pictured below to the left) did their best Michael Jackson routine at the school's annual Variety Show. This year's program featured a "soc hop" theme. After students showed their individual talents with singing, dancing and musicianship on guitar and piano, all the participants wowed their classmates with a "Hand Jive" dance routine. Perhaps the most impressive talent of the program was the convincing disguises of Centennial students Nick Skrabis and Ricky Maziarka, who danced to a tune by pop diva Miley Cyrus, while donning blonde wigs and sunglasses. Liberty School Assistant Principal Dave Snyder and Principal Cheryl Foertsch are shown with the top three finalists in the school's 3rd annual spelling Bee: 3rd place winner Aaron Rubi (5th grade), 1st place winner Josh Prost (4th grade), and 2nd place winner Ray Nowicki (5th grade). Final words included: clamor, stomachache, inference, canvass, exhaustion, reproach, alternate, exhaustion and fascination.

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South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Volume 11 Number 6

March 16, 2010

Palos Park abates taxes on bonds

By Matt Mayer

The village board at a recent Palos Park Board of Trustees meeting approved an ordinance abating the tax levied for 2009 to pay the principle and interest on the $450,000 general obligation bonds (alternative revenue source) series 2004 of the village of Palos Park as well as an ordinance abating the tax levied for the 2009 year to pay the principle and interest on the $450,000 general obligation bonds (alternative revenue source) series 2005 of the Village of Palos Park

Other Highlights: The village board approved an intergovernmental agreement for the planning and administrating of a marathon in the Southwest Suburban area as well as an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Palos Heights and the Village of Palos Park which allows non residents to use swimming facilities. A resolution to appoint a freedom of information officer for the police department was also approved.

The board approved a letter of agreement with Sikich (Certified Public Accountants and Advisors) to provide an audit for the village for the year ending April 30 2010 in the amount of $24,017.00 - the village share is $20,695.00 and the library share is $3,322.00. A retailer's liquor license for the Walgreen's store at 13022 S. LaGrange Rd was also approved.

Census 2010 update was announced: In March every household will receive a questionnaire. It is very important that you take the time to fill out and mail back the form rather than wait for a Census worker stopping by your residence. The 2010 Census will ask such questions as your name, gender, age, and race. Whether you own or rent your home, your answers are protected by law and not shared with anyone. The 2010 Census does not ask for your social security number, bank accounts number, or credit card numbers. Census Workers must carry an ID Badge that contains a Department of Commerce watermark and expiration date. They do not solicit for donations and will never contact you by e-mail.

The Southwest Community Concert Band, presents "Around the World in 80 Minutes"

Get ready to book your travel plans for Sunday, April 18th as the Southwest Community Concert Band takes you "Around the World in 80 Minutes". We'll start our journey here in the United States with American Overture for Band by Joseph Willcox Jenkins. Then we'll travel to the Far East and perform Variations on a Korean Folk Song by John Barnes Chance. We'll then move up to the top of the globe and hear Finlandia, a symphonic poem by Jean Sibelius. Other highlights of our travels will include music from South Pacific by Rodgers & Hammerstein and Malagueña arranged by Sammy Nestico. The tour will conclude with Respighi's Pines of Rome, which is considered one of the masterpieces of the Roman Trilogy. Travel with us through music to these locations as well as many other locations around the world.

This free concert will be held April 18, 2010 Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at the First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 South Bell Road, Lemont, Illinois 60439. During intermission, beverages and snacks can be purchased at the church's Clay Cup

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council. The Southwest Community Concert Band was established in 1981. Rehearsals are 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at the First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 South Bell Road, Lemont, IL 60439. P.O. Box 246, Lemont Illinois 60439-0246. Band voice mail (815) 773-4159. Website: www.swcommunityband.com Email for more info at: info@swcommunityband.com Upcoming events

June 6, 2010 Sunday 3:00 p.m. – Free "Old Fashioned Band Concert". At the First Church of the Nazarene. Musically we'll recreate a time when the Town Concert Band was the main source of entertainment for many across the United States. You'll hear Sousa & Fillmore marches and some old "chestnuts" from the concert band repertoire. Of course there will be Broadway selections and some favorites from the Great American Songbook. A thoroughly musically entertaining afternoon is guaranteed by all! Scholarship winners will be announced at this concert. The scholarship requirements and applications are on-line at our website. http://www.swcommunityband.com/scholarship.html

June 13, 2010 Sunday 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Free band concert at Circle Park, 97th and Homan, Evergreen Park. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

July 4, 2010 Saturday 3:00 p.m. "Outdoor Patriotic Concert" at Cantigny in Wheaton

July 12 – 16, 2010 The Band hosts a Summer Band Camp for students entering 6th through 9th grade. At the First Church of the Nazarene. www.swcommunityband.com/bandday.html

Worth Park District announces schedule

New this year to the Worth Park District is the Shamrock Search! Children will be going on a search for shamrocks. Prizes will be given out to all participants and special prizes for those who find the "lucky" shamrocks. Children ages 3-12 can test their luck with this fun St. Patrick's Day event. This event will take place on Wednesday, March 17 at the Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit) The cost is $6.00 for residents and $ 9.00 for non-residents.

Starting Friday, March 26th the Terrace Centre will host the 2nd Annual Twilight Egg Hunt for grades kindergarten thru 6th. The egg hunting will begin at 7:45pm. Bring your flashlights and baskets for an "Eggciting" evening of egg and candy hunting outside in the dark. Plastic eggs will be filled with points and surprises. Find the golden egg and win a special prize! Pizza and pop will be served after the hunt. This event takes place outdoors so make sure to dress appropriately. This event costs $6.50 for residents and $9.50 for non-residents. The registration deadline is March 19th.

Join the Worth Park District and Village of Worth in the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 3rd at 11:05 AM. This event is free but we do ask that you call and preregister. The Easter Egg hunt is for children ages walking to 12 years old. Thousands of eggs will be hidden throughout the park at the Terrace Centre. Make sure to dress for the weather and to bring a basket! Registration deadline is March 26th.

The Park District's double elimination 16" softball tournament is coming up. This tournament will be played on Saturday, April 17 at Peaks Park (10707 Oak Park Ave.) and will start at 9 AM for ages 18 and up. The cost for this tournament is $295.00 for resident teams and $335.00 for non-resident teams. The registration deadline is April 8. For more information regarding any activities please call the District's Terrace Centre at (708) 448-7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org.

Pappas celebrates Irish Heritage Month with Queen of St. Patrick's Day Parade

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas celebrates Irish Heritage Month with the Queen of Chicago's 2010 St. Patrick's Day Parade and her Court while cutting a cake in their honor at a reception in her downtown Chicago office. Pappas has made it a tradition to hold a reception for the Queen and her Court, piped in by the Shannon Rovers, as a tribute to the Parade and the Irish community of Cook County. From left: Robert Ryan, Queen Contest Chairman and Grand Marshal of the Parade; Erin Mulcahy, Lauren Corry, Parade Queen Kerry Ann Brennan, Treasurer Pappas, Sara Collins, Meghan Kathleen Hays and James T. Sullivan, general chairman of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

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B-MAC EDITION

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 Number 6

March 16, 2010

Alsip approves IDOT resolution

By Matt Mayer

The village board at the Alsip Board of Trustees meeting approved an Illinois Department of Transportation (IDO) resolution appropriating $100,000 of Motor Fuel Tax Funds under the provisions of the Illinois Highway Code from January 1 - December 31, 2010. The funds will be used for maintaining streets and highways.

Other highlights: The village received a letter of appreciation from the County Clerk's office for allowing the use of the village hall for early voting. A total of 422 voters were at the site. A request to advertise for bids to restore the 3.2 million gallon north reservoir water tower at 117th and Kedvale was approved as well as a request to advertise for bids for the replacement of 168 patio doors at Heritage I Senior apartments. The bonds issued last year for the Heritage complexes will fund the project.

A property transfer tax refund request from Applebrook Reality for $528.50 for the property sale at 11725 S. Rosemary which didn't go through and the stamp was returned was also approved. A request from the Alsip Falcons Football and Cheerleading Association to place signs throughout the village advertising registration for the upcoming football season was approved as well as and a waiver of associated fees.

Nicor Philanthropic Contributions Top $2 Million

Volunteer and monetary donations benefit more than 1,200 causes in Illinois

Today Nicor announced the results of its 2009 philanthropy endeavors, which resulted in more than $2 million in corporate and employee financial donations – and thousands of volunteer hours – benefiting more than 1,200 worthy causes in communities throughout northern Illinois.

"I am very proud to be part of a team that truly cares about the well-being of its communities. Nicor and its employees not only gave this year, but they exceeded fundraising goals. That type of commitment is admirable and appreciated by so many – especially during these tough economic times," said Claudia Colalillo , Senior Vice President Human Resources and Corporate Philanthropy for Nicor Inc. & Nicor Gas.

United Way, for the first time in the company's history, in 2009 Nicor was included in the United Way 's Metropolitan Chicago's Top 25 Corporate Citizens list. The company and its employees donated more than $1 million – exceeding the fundraising goal by nearly $20,000 – to Nicor's annual United Way campaign and achieved a 76% rate of participation from employees.

Adventures in Reading with Nicor, the company 's signature philanthropic program, is designed to foster a lifelong love of reading among children. Nicor provides free books to students and parents, professional development training for teachers, special coaching sessions for parents, and motivational prizes and activities with assembly presentations featuring Super Reader, Nicor's costumed superhero, at participating schools. The program launched in 2006, and since then it has encouraged students to read more than 130,000 books.

The Adventures in Reading with Nicor program continued to flourish at Cicero West Elementary School in Cicero, Sykuta Elementary School in Country Club Hills, and Smith Elementary School in Aurora. Students at these schools read approximately 50,000 books during the 2008-2009 school year.

Nicor and its employees also demonstrated their generosity throughout 2009 by giving back to the communities in which they live and serve in a variety of additional ways:

Illinois Dollars for Scholars

Nicor Gas is proud to be a founding corporate sponsor of Illinois Dollars for Scholars. Since 1997, Nicor Gas has granted more than $550,000 in incentive grants to help establish Dollars for Scholars Chapters in Illinois. As a result, over the last decade, Nicor Gas chapters have raised more than $6.5 million and have distributed $2.85 million to over 4,000 students.

Pappas celebrates Irish Heritage Month with Queen of St. Patrick's Day Parade and her court

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas celebrates Irish Heritage Month with the Queen of Chicago's 2010 St. Patrick's Day Parade and her Court while cutting a cake in their honor at a reception in her downtown Chicago office. Pappas has made it a tradition to hold a reception for the Queen and her Court, piped in by the Shannon Rovers, as a tribute to the Parade and the Irish community of Cook County. From left: Robert Ryan, Queen Contest Chairman and Grand Marshal of the Parade; Erin Mulcahy, Lauren Corry, Parade Queen Kerry Ann Brennan, Treasurer Pappas, Sara Collins, Meghan Kathleen Hays and James T. Sullivan, general chairman of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

Have a Heart and Help Your Neighbor in South Suburban Cook County

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago, South Regional Office are having the Have a Heart and Help Your Neighbor drive for nonperishable food and financial donations now threw March 31, 2010.

Catholic Charities South Regional Services is located at 16100 Seton Drive, South Holland, IL 60473, (708) 333-8379. The purpose is to help increasing numbers of families and individuals in crisis.

How: Give your tax deductible donation in person at the location above, or give by phone by calling (708) 333-8379. Mail your check or money order payable to Catholic Charities, with "Have a Heart" in the notation line, to Have a Heart, South Regional Services, 16100 Seton Drive, South Holland, IL 60473. You can also give online at: www.catholiccharities.net/neighbor.

To respond to the staggering increase in requests from individuals and families in need of the very basics – food, shelter, heat, clothing – Catholic Charities in South Suburban Cook County is asking you to Have a Heart and Help Your Neighbor this March. Beginning Monday, March 1 and continuing all month long, Catholic Charities will be collecting financial contributions and non-perishable food to feed people across Cook and Lake Counties. The South Regional Office is one of 10 locations that will be accepting donations. The donations will be given out daily to those in the greatest need who come to the pantries for food.

Who is your neighbor that will be helped by Catholic Charities? Catholic Charities serves anyone in need, regardless of religious belief, economic circumstance, age, or ethnic background.

Your financial contribution goes a long way at Catholic Charities, thanks to partnerships with local food agencies. For example, a donation of $9.50 will buy 9 gallons of milk (at a cost of just over $1 per gallon). For the market price of one name-brand box of cereal, we can buy 12.

"From 2008 to 2009 the number of individuals coming to this South Regional office for food has increased by 73%; many are frustrated and first-time clients who have found themselves in an unfamiliar situation due to job loss," says Frederick Shannon, South Regional Services Representative.

Helping people in need for over 90 years, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago is one of the largest private, not-for-profit social service agencies in the Midwest, annually assisting more than one million persons in Cook and Lake counties without regard to religious, ethnic or economic background. Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity by providing compassionate, competent, professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities.

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WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Lawn / Burbank / Hickory Hills / Evergreen Park

Volume 36 Number 19

April 6, 2010

Sertoma Centre, Inc. announces Big Event 2010

Sertoma Centre, Inc announced that Saturday, May 15th, 2010 is the date scheduled for the Big Event 2010 The event will be held at 115 Bourbon Street in Merrionette Park, IL from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm and promises to be even bigger and better than before. Supported by Southtown Star Newspaper and the Aileen S. Andrew Foundation the Big Event offers great food and a great time for everyone. You can enjoy live entertainment, music, celebrity judges from the sports world and TV Radio, Big Raffle, $5000 Grand Prize, many cash prizes and lots of activities for the children We are thrilled to announce that we will have Dave Fleming, magician and juggler on stage again this year dazzling children and adults alike with his amazing skills Ticket prices are the same low price as last year – Adults $10 for entry fee donation food sample tickets, children 12 & under $5, children under 3, free

Firefighters enter the Firefighters Cook-off Competition. If you consider yourself to be the best firehouse chef in the city or suburbs then this competition is for you. Prepare your delicious recipe for chicken, chili, ribs or ethnic dishes and compete to be the next Champion Chef.

Business owners become a BIG Event sponsor and show your support of Sertoma Centre, Inc., and the individuals with disabilities we serve. Sertoma has six sponsorship levels to work with every budget. This year we have made every effort to offer more value for the dollars we hope you donate as part of the BIG Event Sponsorship program.

Registration forms for Cook-off or Event Sponsorships, and information on our programs and services are located on the website: www.sertomacentre.org or please contact Melanie Jones, Director of Advancement and Communications, (708) 730-6206 or mjones@sertomacentre.org.

All proceeds from this event benefit programs at Sertoma Centre Alsip, IL for over 650 individuals with developmental, physical, emotional disabilities, and mental illness. Our services include vocational evaluation, developmental training, community-based assessments, senior programming, work adjustment training, residential services, janitorial skills training, foster care, job placement services, supported employment, specialized services, school transition services, psychosocial rehabilitation, and a sheltered workshop program

Lingo to address Stickney Township seniors

Paula Lingo, Chief Legal Advisor and Chief Examiner of Titles for Eugene Moore, Cook County Recorder of Deeds will speak before the Stickney Township Seniors, Wednesday, April 14 at 10 a.m. at the Louis Viverito Senior Center, 7745 S. Leamington, Burbank

Kellie Dillon, coordinator, announced Ms. Lingo will explain the workings of the Recorder of Deeds Office Since she acts as Counsel to the Recorder on law and related matters, she will discuss Real Estate Law, Torrens, foreclosures, bankruptcy, State and

Federal Liens, Mechanic Liens, Corporations, trusts and probate

Paula received her B.S. Degree at Loyola University and her Law Degree at DePaul University College of Law

McElroy chats with top Chicago physicians

Ed McElroy, host of "The Ed McElroy Show" recently interviewed Dr. Anthony Geroulis, M.D., F.A.A.C.S. Clinical Professor of Surgery, University of Chicago and North Shore Center for Facial Plastic and Cosmetic Surgery. His second guest was Vince Cesaro, Director of Physical Therapy, Little Company of Mary Hospital.

The show will air on Tuesday, April 6 and again on Tuesday, April 13, both at 8 p.m. on Comcast Channel 19 Pictured from the left is Vince Cesaro, Ed McElroy and Dr. Anthony Geroulis.

Illinois State House and Senate moving to repeal Consumer Protection

Millions of dollars in electric brokers fees to be returned to consumers if law passed

The Illinois Senate and House are currently moving to repeal a 2007 unanimously passed law that requires electricity brokers, agents or consultants (known as ABC's) who act as middlemen between consumers and electric suppliers to disclose the fees they charge consumers.

Prior to this law's enactment, many unscrupulous ABC's would hide the fees they charged consumers, which resulted in consumers unwittingly paying much, much more for electricity than they should have. Worse, some ABC's would "double dip", charging consumers directly to obtain quotes for electricity while, at the same time, secretly taking payments from energy suppliers

The legislature recognized these problems and realized that consumers needed to be protected from these predatory practices. In 2007, they unanimously passed what is now known as the "ABC Law"

As it exists today, the ABC law protects consumers by not allowing these ABC's to hide their fees. The law also requires ABC's to tell the consumer, in writing, every penny they are charging to help a consumer find an electric supplier

The ABC's are now pushing two bills, Senate Bill 3627 sponsored by Senator Ira Silverstein, and House Bill 6208 sponsored by Representative Elaine Nekritz, which would repeal the requirement they disclose the fees they charge to consumers

The House bill is scheduled for a vote in the Public Utilities Committee today, and the Senate bill is still under consideration by the Energy Committee

"We ask for our Senators and Representatives to protect consumers and vote against both SB 3627 and HB 6208," said Guy Morgan, CEO and founder of BlueStar Energy Services, Inc., an electric supplier based in Chicago.

Ladies Day Out to be hosted in Burbank

"Ladies Day Out" will be hosted by Burbank Manor Presbyterian Church on Saturday, April 17 from 10 am-2 pm. This event will feature home-based vendors displaying their products for sale A portion of the proceeds will go to support the mission of the church. Scheduled to participate are Pampered Chef, Avon, Passion Parties, Tastefully Simple, Party Lite, Tupperware, Mary Kay and Lia Sophia

Admission is free Raffle tickets and refreshments will be available. All are welcome to this fun time of shopping and sharing For more information, please see the church's website at bmpcusa.com or contact the church office at (708) 424-7181

ObamaCare: Advancing the Destruction of America

By Lawrence R. Huntoon, M.D., Ph.D.

Our country witnessed a Bolshevik moment, whereby our U.S. Constitution was trampled and utterly violated by those for whom the ends justified the means. If Obamacare is allowed to stand, the American way of life will be changed forever, and not in a good way.

As lawsuits emerge from the states, insisting that our leaders in government comply with our Constitution, the president who promised bipartisanship and bringing America together has created the greatest division in our country since the civil war.

It is an ideological division between those who believe that government's role is to confiscate wealth from the productive, and redistribute that wealth as the socialists see fit versus those who look to government to protect them from tyranny.

Common sense, basic economics, and history have been abused and ignored for the purpose of advancing a socialist agenda. Those who favor socialism, and government controlling 1/6th of our nation's economy, argue that ObamaCare isn't socialism because people will obtain medical insurance from private insurers.

While it is true, that for now, the federal government will not own the "means of production," the federal government will control private insurers via regulations and price controls (corporate socialism). As more people are insured and utilization of services increase, the cost of providing private insurance, and hence the cost of medical insurance premiums will increase dramatically.

A newly empowered federal bureaucracy under ObamaCare will implement price controls on insurance premiums to control unsustainable increases in premiums. Ultimately, private insurers will be driven out of business by ObamaCare when they are unable to provide medical insurance at a financial loss due to government imposed mandates and price controls. The inevitable result will be a "public option" (fully socialized medicine) as the only option available.

The history of government involvement in medicine is a history replete with deception and gross underestimation of the costs. When Medicare was passed, people were told if they liked the private insurance they had, they could keep it. The result: government destroyed the private insurance market for those 65 and older. Government also promised not to interfere in the practice of medicine or to engage in price fixing for medical services. However, government now interferes in nearly every aspect of the practice of medicine for Medicare patients, and government has engaged in price-fixing to a degree that the fees sometimes do not cover the cost of providing medical care. And, the current cost of Medicare is nothing close to what was estimated in 1965. Medicare is going broke.

The ultimate goal of ObamaCare is to destroy the private sector in medicine and make people dependent on the federal government. The sales pitch that government can take from others to pay for everything one needs or desires is, in reality, a cruel assault on the middle class which will never get ahead because of the oppressive taxation that will be required to pay for the socialist redistribution of wealth. It's hard to overcome the greed of those who believe they are entitled to something for nothing.

And, those who believe that government will not ultimately ration medical care, should take note that the brother of Obama's chief of staff has already published principles for allocation of scarce medical interventions. Those principles for rationing care include "promoting and rewarding social usefulness." The rationing system that it promotes, known as the "Complete Lives System," includes an age-based priority for receiving medical intervention. The curve drops off rather precipitously past the age of 50. "Distributive justice" is said to be the appropriate focus of the Complete Lives System.

If our Republic is to survive, Americans must reject the socialist fantasy and economic impossibility of everyone living at the expense of everyone else, and we must return to individual freedom and responsibility. And, we must insist that our U.S. Constitution not be violated.

Village View Publication, Inc.
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Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnews@sbcglobal.net

Owner-Editor-Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnews@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Opting Out of the Third Party System Will Save the Doctor-Patient Relationship

Richard Amerling, MD

Now that the Senate version of ObamaCare is moments from becoming the law of the land, we need strategies to safeguard the doctor-patient relationship from government intrusion. The most effective approach is for both patients and physicians to opt out of the third party payment system.

From the patients' perspective, opting out makes sense. Insurance companies will not be allowed to deny care for pre-existing conditions. Thus, even if the individual mandate is not thrown out on constitutional grounds, it will be smarter to pay the penalty, not buy insurance, and put as much money as possible into a health savings account. Prompt excellent medical care can readily be found in the burgeoning free market. Prices should be transparent to facilitate comparison shopping.

Physicians have an ethical obligation to use their skills and training for the betterment of our patients, and to pass this art to the next generation. For those who choose to remain in practice, opting out of third party payment will be an increasingly attractive option.

Accepting payment directly from the insurer is a relatively recent aberration in the long history of the profession. There was never a crisis in access to doctors' services in the pre-Medicare/Medicaid era. Physician fees were usual, customary, and reasonable. Doctors charged well-heeled patients a bit more and those less well off a bit less. Pro bono care was a part of every practice. There was, and still is, competition between physicians for patients, and this restrained charges. Patients valued the doctors' time and vice versa. Doctors worked exclusively for the patient and were their strong advocates. There was a high degree of trust and medical care was used selectively. Direct third party physician payment changed all of this for the worse.

Initially, doctors "accepted assignment" as a courtesy. Medicare eventually required participating physicians to agree to this. Over the years, it became the norm. This was, in some ways, convenient to patient and physician. But by insulating both from the true costs of care, it led to overutilization and massive increases in health care spending. Payers responded with price controls and attempts to micromanage medical decision-making such as managed care, and its new version, pay-for-performance. Price controls on physicians' drove volume increases that resulted in overall spending escalation. Higher volume inevitably impacts quality of care. No "quality improvement" measures can adequately compensate for this.

Widespread opting out of the third party payment system will lead to lower utilization with huge cost savings. There is no more efficient model than direct pay since it eliminates the middleman for the majority of charges. Office costs are dramatically reduced when third party billing is abandoned. By setting their own rates, doctors will be in control of their time and patient volume would decrease. Quality of care would improve, again saving money. The doctor-patient relationship, arguably the essential ingredient to cure and comfort, would be strengthened.

The immediate objection to opting out is that not everyone can afford to pay at time of service. The same argument could be made for dental and legal care. (Note the absence of crises in the delivery of cosmetic surgery, dental, veterinary, and legal care---all outside third party systems). We have simply become accustomed to having "someone else" pay.

Another frequent objection is that some patients will not go for needed care if they must lay out money. This is easy to assert and impossible to disprove, but should bureaucrats make these decisions? This, plus unsustainable overuse of the system, are the inevitable alternatives.

Universal coverage will complete the move toward centrally controlled care. Practice will be directed (i.e. rationed) by federal committees using practice guidelines, "pay for performance," and the electronic health record. Individualized care and medical confidentiality will slowly disappear. Importantly for the administration and Congress, more citizens will become dependent on government largesse. Doctors and other providers will become government employees, and be subject to its whims.

It is now left to individual physicians and patients to act in their own interests, and to defend the medical profession and doctor-patient relationship from government intrusion, and ultimately, destruction.

It is time to opt out.

IRS seeking civic volunteers

The Internal Revenue Service seeks civic-minded volunteers to serve on the Taxpayer Advocacy Panel (TAP), a federal advisory committee that listens to taxpayers, identifies key issues and makes recommendations for improving IRS service.

"The feedback and suggestions that the TAP provides us from the taxpayer's point of view are important to sound tax administration," said IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman.

The TAP provides a forum for taxpayers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia , and Puerto Rico to raise concerns about IRS service and offer suggestions for improvement. The TAP reports annually to the Secretary of the Treasury, the IRS Commissioner and the National Taxpayer Advocate. The Office of the Taxpayer Advocate, an independent organization within the IRS, provides oversight and funding for the TAP.

"In trying to comply with an increasingly complex tax system, taxpayers may find they need different services from the IRS," said Nina E. Olson, National Taxpayer Advocate. "The TAP is vital because it provides the IRS with the taxpayer's perspective and recommendations for improvements that will help the IRS to deliver the best possible service to assist taxpayers in meeting their tax obligations."

To be a member of the TAP you must be a U.S. citizen, current with your federal tax obligations, able to commit 300 to 500 hours during the year, and able to pass an FBI criminal background check. New TAP members will serve a three-year term starting in December 2010. Anyone chosen as an alternate member will be considered to fill any vacancies that open in their area during the next two years.

Applications for TAP will be accepted through April 30. Applications are available online at www.improveirs.org for more information about TAP please call toll free 1-888-912-1227.

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Enjoy spectacular new permanent exhibits, Science Storms and YOU for free

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago will offer FREE general admission April 19-23, 2010. Enjoy hands-on, new groundbreaking permanent exhibits like Science Storms and YOU! The Experience for FREE! You can also explore all the classic favorites lie the coal mine, as well as enjoy our daily, exciting live science demonstrations

And on Earth Day, Thursday, April 22, come see University of Illinois Extension master gardeners and some local "green thumb" 4th and 5th graders planting flowers in the Smart Home: Green + Wired garden Those who buy tickets to tour the Smart Home will be able to see bee keeping demonstrations, learn about worm composting, see raised bed planters come alive with color and see a new bur oak tree planted in the Smart Park and more. (Please note: the Smart Home will still require an extra ticket and charge on this free day.)

The Museum is open from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on those days. Science Storms, which opened March 18, is an amazing new permanent exhibit that unravels the mysteries of physics and chemistry through recreations of nature's most powerful phenomena. Stand before a 40-foot tornado to study air pressure and wind speed Gaze up at Tesla Coil that discharges giant bolts of lightning to learn about electricity and magnetism Trigger an avalanche using a 25-foot avalanche disk and watch how granular materials create spectacular patterns. Create a tsunami in a 30-foot wave tank to discover the motion and power of waves.

YOU! The Experience, which opened in October 2009, lets you experiment with more than 50 fun, cutting-edge interactive displays to understand what it means to live a vital, healthy life. Whether testing your fitness and basketball moves with a virtual coach; playing Mindball, a game of "competitive relaxation" in which you win by controlling your brainwaves, or transmitting your heartbeat to make the Museum's 13 foot Giant Heart come alive, you will see yourself—and your health—in new and fascinating ways

Senior Trivia Challenge

The Louis S. Viverito Senior Center located at 7745 S. Leamington in Burbank will be hosting a Game Show on Tuesday, April 20, 2010. The interactive trivia blitz presented by Game Show Gurus will feature TV like game show contestant booths, digital scoring, theme music, and tons of trivia questions. Every participant will receive a prize! Teams of two to three individuals will be selected from the audience to play each round. Join us for the game show and lunch. The party begins at 9:30 A.M. Lunch will be served at 11:30 A.M. To register for the party please call (708) 636-8850.

ALL ABOUT ME
Makes it **ALL ABOUT YOU!**
April 29, 2010 | 6-10pm
A Mother's Day Tribute
TO ALL WOMEN!
At 115 Bourbon Street
3359 W. 115th St.
Merrionette Park, IL
THE ULTIMATE SHOPPING EVENT
$3.00 admission
Appetizer Buffet - Cash Bar - Free Valet
Over 40 vendors to shop from
ALL ABOUT ME
11015 S. Kedzie - Chicago, IL
(708) 699-5656

St. Albert the Great eight graders performed the Living Stations

On Tuesday, March 30, the 8th grade class of St. Albert the Great Catholic School in Burbank, IL, performed the Living Stations for the entire student body in church. Each 8th grader had an active part in the performance either as a reader or an actor.

Caregiver Program Available

Caring for a family member with a chronic illness such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease or stroke is stressful and takes an enormous physical and emotional toll on caregivers. PLOWS Council on Aging is offering a six part training program entitled Powerful Tools for Caregivers. The focus of the Powerful Tools program is to enable caregivers to better care for themselves by improving their own self-confidence and problem solving skills.

Classes are scheduled in the lower level conference room at the PLOWS' office, 7808 College Drive, Palos Heights Classes consist of six – 2 ½ hour class sessions held weekly beginning April 14 and running through May 15 Sessions will be start at 1:00PM and run through 3:30PM. A nominal fee of $25 is charged for these classes to cover the cost of the Caregiver Helpbook.. (Financial assistance may be available to those who qualify.) To register, simply contact PLOWS Council on Aging, (708) 361-0219 PLOWS Council on Aging is a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting older people who reside in Palos, Lemont, Orland, and Worth Townships

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of persons 60 years of age and older, by providing the highest level of service to those who are physically, psychologically, and/or financially in need and treating those persons and families with dignity, compassion, and respect.

Orland Dental Care
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708.364 8900 • www.orlanddentalcare.com
$59 - Kids under 15 $29
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Including X-rays and Study Models
($500 value)
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Same-Day Emergency
Cosmetic Treatment and Family Dentistry Care
Gentle... Caring... Affordable

Pictured are juniors (L-R) Josh Rotkvich and Nicholas Wozniak.

Chicago Metro History Fair Winners

St. Laurence High School in Burbank , the place "Where Leadership Begins," is proud to announce that two of its students are state finalists in the prestigious annual Chicago Metro History Fair contest.

They are: 1) Josh Rotkvich, a junior from Crestwood, whose essay is entitled, " Chicago 's Non-Military Involvement in World War I," and 2) Nicholas Wozniak, a junior from Chicago Clearing, who wrote "The Birth of the Skyscraper in Chicago ."

Other research papers of St. Laurence students receiving Honorable Mention awards were: Patrick Moriarity (a junior from Palos Heights) whose essay was "The History of the Chicago Flag," Brian Cummane (a junior from Orland Park) who paper was titled "Chicago's Underground Tunnels and the 1992 Flood," Matt Buehe (a junior from Crestwood) who wrote "The Burnham Plan for Chicago," and Matt Actipes (a junior from Chicago Scottsdale) who penned the essay "The Early Years of the Second City Theatre."

"These young men did a great job researching and putting together their material. I am proud of them, and I congratulate them," stated longtime English instructor John Kroc, who coordinated all the school's entries along with venerable history teacher Tom Rezek.

Save the date for the Village Wide Garage Sale in Evergreen Park

Village Wide Garage Sale The Evergreen Park Senior Citizen's Council is hosting "Memories to Go", a village wide garage sale on Saturday, May 1st; at Yukich Field, 89th and Kedzie Ave., from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a great time to clean your closets and sell items no longer needed or used. Also a great time to clean your closets and sell items no longer needed or used. Also a great time to find bargains or treasures. Advance registration is a must. Rental spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Rental space inside the ice rink is $50, outside is $35. Deadline for spaces is Friday, April 23rd. Apply in Room 107 of the Evergreen Park Community Center , 3450 W. 97th St . For information call the Office of Citizen's Service. 708-422-8776

Search for Treasures at the Smith Crossing Rummage Sale

For the first time, the Smith Crossing Rummage Sale benefitting the Arthritis Foundation and the Smith Crossing fund for residents who outlive their means will be open to the public on Sat., April 24, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The sale will be held in the Independent Living Multi Purpose Room at Smith Crossing, 10501 Jamie Lane in Orland Park, Ill. (near the intersection of 104th Ave. and 183rd St.).

Merchandise will include an eclectic mix of items donated by residents and staff.

Because all sale items and staff time are donated, all proceeds will benefit the charities. Funds will be divided equally between the two causes.

Touts of the continuing care retirement community and information about Smith Crossing's $35 million expansion will be available before or after the presentation.

About Smith Crossing

Smith Crossing is one of only 15 CCRCs in Illinois awarded a five year term of accreditation for "exemplary conformance" to international standards set by CARF-CCAC, the industry's sole accrediting body. This honor reflects the outstanding standard of care and the host of services and amenities designed for residents in villas and spacious apartments at Smith Crossing.

Smith Crossing has launched a $35 million expansion to meet the needs of the growing population of active seniors in the southwest suburbs of Chicago. The expansion will add 110 new apartment homes and additional amenities for residents at all levels of care. Smith Crossing is now taking deposits to reserves these new residences, as well as adding people to its waiting list for current residences in Independent and Assisted Living.

The community is part of the highly regarded Smith Senior Living communities in the southwestern region of metropolitan Chicago. The not-for-profit organization established its first community in 1924 in Chicago's historic Beverly neighborhood.

For more information about Smith Crossing call 708.326.2300 or visit smithcrossing.org.

Senator hosts U.S. Census meeting April 7

State Sen. M. Maggie Crotty (D-19) urges south suburban residents to complete their U.S. Census forms on time and be counted in this national effort.

To that end, Crotty will host an informational meeting for residents at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 7 at the Bremen Township Senior and Youth Center, 15330 South Oak Park Ave. in Oak Forest. A Spanish translator will be present to assist Spanish-speaking residents.

"It is very important that people respond to this census," Crotty said, "as it has long range implications for revenue and services to our region." The census effort is in its final weeks of information gathering from residents.

A U.S. Census Bureau official will be present to answer questions and provide assistance in filling out the census forms.

Additionally, census posters and other informational materials are available to churches, community organizations and businesses from the senator's district office.

It is located at 16361 South Kedzie Ave. in Markham and is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Further information is available from Crotty's office at (708) 333-9530.

Peace sophomores (left to right) Kelli Peyronet, Allison Janozik, and Crystal Sweiss participate in a Madhubani arts session during a day-long Arts Without Borders experience at the school.

Peace Sophomores Participate in Indian Art and Culture Experience

As part of the school's Arts Without Borders program, Queen of Peace sophomores participated in a day long Indian art and culture experience presented by Bollywood Rhythms.

The students began the day with a presentation on the overview of Indian culture, including such topics as religion, myths and arts. They then rotated through three breakout sessions – Bollywood dance, Madhubani arts and Tabla music. Bollywood dancing is a modern Indian dance combining Bhangra, Classical Indian, Arabic and Indian Folk. This ethnic dance became more main stream with the success of the Oscar-winning film "Slumdog Millionaire" in 2009. Madhubani art is a form of Indian folk art and modern-day versions are available on cloth, paper and canvas. The students created a version on sketching paper. Tabla is a popular Indian percussion instrument and Peace's students were instructed in the traditional style and technique.

Following lunch, the students watched a performance by Bollywood Rhythms' professional dancers from Naperville, and were then instructed in Kathak, one of the eight forms of Indian classical dance.

Peace's Arts Without Borders program was initiated last year to expose students to varied art forms and venues and fosters higher level thinking skills.

Chicago Ridge Public Library announces programs

The Friends of the Chicago Ridge Public Library in partnership with the Chicago Ridge Fire Department will offer CPR certification for Health Care Providers on Monday, April 19th from 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. There is the nominal fee of $20 for Chicago Ridge Residents and $30 for non-residents. Stop by the library at 10400 S. Oxford and pick up a brochure for registration details. Call the library at 423-7753 or visit our website for more information.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, invites you to join us on Thursday, April 22nd at 7:00 p.m. for an evening with author, Jeffrey Zaslow. Mr. Zaslow, currently with the Wall Street Journal, wrote the bestselling book, The Last Lecture with the late Professor Randy Pausch. Mr. Zaslow will give us some insights to his writing career and how he selects his writing projects.

New gardening website launch has local connection

by Colin Fitzgerald

April is upon us and it's time for all gardening enthusiasts to yank open that old shed door, grab your outdoor tools and start reshaping your backyard paradise. If for some reason you are not motivated for this year's planting don't worry, because there is something especially exciting about this spring and it can be found on the World Wide Web.

YourGardenShow.com is set to launch this month. It is the first of its kind, a social media website dedicated entirely to all things gardening.

A "social media" website is any website used by people to interact socially with each other in a variety of ways. Some popular examples are facebook, youtube, twitter etc. These popular sites are not focused upon one particular passion, so those who desire a social media site that is specific to one common hobby need to search elsewhere. That search has apparently come to an end for gardening buffs as this new site promises to fulfill all your garden needs, aside from providing sunscreen and bug spray.

"We tried to make this very user friendly," explains Bill Healy of Orland Park. "The site is geared towards gardening masters, hobbyists and those who are curious gardeners."

Healy, an accountant in Orland, was intricate in bringing together the creators of the site with investors. Healy pitched the site to 14 prospective investors, and 13 agreed to invest under one condition, that Healy have a stake in the site as well. "I told them that I didn't have the cash, but they said they'd loan me the money, so now I'm in with them," Healy explained.

"The whole idea of the website is to be able to look into your neighbor's garden and converse about it on a global scale. Users will be able to upload photos and give video tours, and users will be able to subscribe to a number of blogs."

"One of our primary features is a gardening log. Users can keep a log of their garden and share this log with others, so people can compare what, when, and how they planted and socially interact with that information."

The website has proven to have a social conscious as well. Users will also have the option to participate in research tracking the effects of global warming. The data from each log kept will be donated to partners Cornell University, New York, and UC Davis, California, and analyzed to further the academic community's knowledge of global climate change.

Check out a sneak peek at the site, and find links to videos and blogs at http://blog.yourgardenshow.com

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The follow books will be available for pre-sale at the library: The Last Lecture, Highest Duty, with Captain "Sully" Sullenberger who heroically landed a plane in the Hudson River, and The Girls from Ames, a story chronicling a 40 year friendship. Mr. Zaslow will be autographing your purchases on the 22nd.

Call the library at 423-7753 to reserve a seat to this free event.

Burbank Manor Presbyterian Church

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Come join all your favorite Home-Based Businesses for a fun day of shopping and sharing

Saturday, April 17, 2010
10 am to 2 pm

Free Admission • Raffle Tickets
Free Refreshments

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Salute to our Troops Dinner Dance

Orland Township is sponsoring a Salute to Our Troops Dinner Dance for seniors age 55 and over.

The dinner dance will be held on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at the Orland Chateau, 14500 So. LaGrange Rd., Orland Park , from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Tickets are necessary and may be purchased at the Orland Township office, 14807 South Ravinia, Orland Park . Resident tickets will be available on Monday, April 5 for $16.00 each. Non-resident tickets will be available on Monday, April 19 for $21.00 each.

Ticket price includes a family style meal and entertainment by The Swinging Times. This very special evening is always a sell out!

The evening is dedicated to veterans who have sacrificed their lives for their country. Please join us as we salute these wonderful men and women. Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, Unincorporated Orland Township , and the western half of Tinley Park .

The Orland Township office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact Kathy Kenyeri, Senior Services Coordinator at (708) 403-4222.

Orland Women's Networking Annual Luncheon

The Orland Women's Networking Luncheon is our newest way to showcase your The OWN Luncheon is a great way to showcase your business to the professional women in the south suburban area The 2010 Women's Luncheon "Expand Your Purse-Financial Know-How for Women" will be held at Georgios Orland Park on April 22nd from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The focus of this luncheon is networking as well as learning how to make the most of your money. Sara Mikuta, CEO of Leaders Bank is our guest speaker and will provide financial advice for women.

We're looking for vendor and table sponsors for this event. Both Vendors and Table sponsors will have their company name on our signage and programs and we will acknowledge them in Chambergram newsletter articles. Vendors will be given a table to promote and sell their products at the event. Table sponsors will have their representative introduced at the luncheon during which they are given an opportunity to give a brief promotion of their company. Please sign up early as these positions are limited.

You won't want to miss this opportunity to promote your business at this event. Our last luncheon attracted over 150 women looking for new products and services! Please contact the Chamber office (708) 349-7451 if you have any questions.

Heart check America Tinley Park

Orland Fire Foundation will host Night at the Races sponsored by Heart Check America Tinley Park on Saturday, May 1st, from 6 - 10 pm at the Orland Park Civic Center.

Tickets are $25 and available at the Orland Fire Administration Building, 9788 W. 151st Street. A night at The Races is an audience participation event whereby pre-recorded thoroughbred races are shown to our participants to recreate the atmosphere of being at the track.

Funny money is used to place your bets. Funny money is then used to bid on items at the end of the night. There will also be tasting station provided by area restaurants and many door prizes. All proceeds from this event will be used to fund fire safety awareness and training for our children and seniors, to inform them how to take preventive measures to protect themselves from serious injury or fatality in the event of a fire or medical emergency.

Please contact Tom Dubelbeis 708 921 0341 for event tickets, sponsorship opportunities and prize donations.

SWSRA Charity Runners

Show your support for South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA), a non-profit organization that provides recreational services for individuals with special needs, by "becoming a Charity Runner"

All you have to do is receive pledges (contact SWSRA for a pledge sheet) and then register for the Palos Bank Southwest Half Marathon at www.palosbankhalfmarathon.com

You will be prompted by a drop down window asking how you heard about this event, please select South West Special Recreation Association. All proceeds will benefit SWSRA services! The Palos Bank Southwest Half Marathon will be held on Sunday, May 2 , at 7:30 a.m., at Palos Heights City Hall, just west of Route 83 and 76th Avenue.

If you are interested in becoming a Charity Runner or for more information, please contact the SWSRA office at (708) 389-0123.

Looking for Nursing Homes, Retirement Centers, Medical Clinics, Chiropractors, Foot Dr's, Pain Clinics, to advertise in our April 20, 2010 issue. Call Linda for details at 312-624-8996.

Orland Park's Antonio Roselli won the nine and ten year old division for Orland Park 's Pitch, Hit and Run 2009 Competition.

Orland Park Recreation to Host Pitch, Hit & Run Contest

The Village of Orland Park Recreation Department will hold its Aquafina Pitch, Hit and Run Contest on Saturday, April 17 at the Doogan Park Ballfields, 14700 Park Lane .

"This is a great opportunity for kids to show their skills and possibly represent their community at the next level of competition," said Orland Park Athletic Supervisor Quincy Bejster.

Registration and a signed waiver are required for the free event, open to girls and boys ages seven to fourteen. Participants must have reached the age at which they are competing by July 17, 2010.

Check in and warm ups begin at 8:00 a.m. on April 17 with the competition beginning at 8:30 a.m. The contest is limited to 200 participants and is open to all area residents. Competition categories are divided according to age and gender.

"The Aquafina Pitch, Hit and Run Competition is a national contest that encourages youth participation and emphasizes the fun elements of baseball," Bejster explained. Participants could potentially advance through four levels of competition, including local and sectional competitions. The national finals are held at the Major League Baseball All Star Game.

Orland Park's Antonio Roselli won the nine and ten year old division for Orland Park 's Pitch, Hit and Run 2009 Competition.

He competed and won for his age level at the sectionals at the Windy City Thunderbolts Stadium. Roselli then competed at the team level competition at U.S. Cellular Field and finished sixth in the nation for his age level.

"Antonio Roselli did an outstanding job representing Orland Park, placing sixth in the country," Bejster said. The top three national winners at each age division advance to Major League Baseball's All-Star Game.

The pitch portion of the program gives each competitor six pitches to hit the designated strike zone target from 45 feet away. Competitors bat from a stationary tee for the hitting element of the contest and must run from second base to home for the running part of the contest. Sliding is not permitted.

"We invite all kids to be a part of the competition, whether they're currently playing ball or not.

Registration for the April 17 Pitch, Hit and Run Contest is currently available at the Franklin Loebe Center, 14750 South Ravinia Avenue and at the village's Sportsplex, 11351 West 159th Street. Those registering the day of the event must bring a valid birth certificate to the competition.

For more information, call the Recreation Department at 708/615-7529.

Meet the Authors
Presentations and Book Signings

Lisa See
Sunday, April 11
1:00 pm

Lisa See, is the author of the critically-acclaimed international best-seller, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* (2005).

See's new novel *"Shanghai Girls"*, about two Chinese sisters who journey to California in the 1930s, delves into forgotten history in a story of immigration, identity, war, and love.

Jeff Zaslow
Friday, April 23
7:00 pm

Jeffrey Zaslow, sparked a worldwide phenomenon with his Wall Street Journal column featuring the final lecture of Carnegie Mellon Professor Randy Pausch. *"The Last Lecture"* by Pausch and Zaslow, is a #1 New York Times best-seller book which has been translated into 44 languages.

Jeff's latest project *"Highest Duty"* is co-authored with Captain "Sully" Sullenberger, the pilot who successfully landed a damaged plane in New York's Hudson River in 2009.

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OR CALL (708) 422-8522

Evergreen Park information guideline

Rain Barrels

Village Hall has 80 gallon rain barrels for sale for $50. If you would like to purchase one for your residence come to Village Hall at 9418 S. Kedzie and place your order. We will then deliver the rain barrel to your home. Cash or check only. While supplies last.

ComEd

will pay you $25 for your old working fridge or freezer, pick it up and recycle it for FREE*

If you have an older, working second fridge or freezer keeping your soft drinks or ice cream cold, its probably costing you more money than you think. For a limited time, ComEd will pay you $25 to turn in that old fridge or freezer. Working with JACO Environmental, we'll pick it up for free and recycle it in an environmentally responsible way. If you have an older working window air conditioner, we'll recycle that as well. To schedule a pick up, visit www.ComEd.com or call (888)806-2273.

Spring Tree Program

The deadline has been extended to April 16th. You can order a tree for your parkway or yard and it will be planted and guaranteed for one year. Brochures with a list of trees are available at Village Hall. Call 229-8219 for more info.

Plows offer a caregiver program

Available Caring for a family member with a chronic illness such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease or stroke is stressful and takes an enormous physical and emotional toll on caregivers.

PLOWS Council on Aging is offering a six part training program entitled Powerful Tools for Caregivers. The focus of the Powerful Tools program is to enable caregivers to better care for themselves by improving their own self-confidence and problem solving skills.

Classes are scheduled in the lower level conference room at the PLOWS' office, 7808 College Drive, Palos Heights. Classes consist of six – 2 ½ hour class sessions held weekly beginning April 14 and running through May 15. Sessions will be start at 1:00PM and run through 3:30PM. A nominal fee of $25 is charged for these classes to cover the cost of the Caregiver Helpbook. (Financial assistance may be available to those who qualify.)

To register, simply contact PLOWS Council on Aging, (708) 361-0219. PLOWS Council on Aging is a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting older people who reside in Palos, Lemont, Orland, and Worth Townships.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of persons 60 years of age and older, by providing the highest level of service to those who are physically, psychologically, and or financially in need and treating those persons and families with dignity, compassion, and respect.

Boy Scout Troop 644, United Methodist Church

Troop 644 would like to thank everyone who came out in support of their annual pancake breakfast on February 13th at United Methodist Church. Proceeds helped to send local scouts to summer camp at Owasippe Scout Reservation.

On February 14th Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts participated in Scout Sunday in which scouts attend services at their hosting church. This year Unit Commissioner Jim Boss received the United Methodist Church Cross and Flame Award given by the men's division in recognition of his outstanding service to scouting and the church. Mr. Boss has served as the unit commissioner for troop 644 for the last five years.

February 19th Scout Master Jim Sullivan welcomed webelo scouts who crossed over from Cub Scout Pack 364-I to Boy Scout Troop 644 during the annual Blue and Gold Ceremony. Cub Scout Master Kevin Hanlon presented the Arrow of Light to webelo scouts that completed all requirements set forth by the Boy Scouts of America. The Arrow of Light is one of only two emblems that cub scouts can wear on their uniforms as boy scouts. Most religious emblems earned as a cub scout can be worn as a boy scout.

Owasippe Scout Reservation will be celebrating one hundred years next year. This year Boy Scouts of America will be celebrating their one hundred year anniversary. Scouts attending camp will have the opportunity to earn such merit badges as archery, astronomy, backpacking, basketry, and many more. This year three new programs will be offered: carpentry, sculpture, and tracking. Carpentry and tracking are being offered only this year as part of the centennial celebration.

On March 7th troop 644 retired hundreds of worn flags of the United States of America collected throughout the community and surrounding areas.

Currently Troop 644 has two candidates working towards the rank of Eagle. The rank of Eagle is the highest rank within the Boy Scouts of America.

The flag retirement ceremony was organized and supervised by a scout at rank of Life working towards rank of Eagle. Beginning April 6th another Eagle Scout project will commence. scouts from troop 644 will paint and make repairs to the meeting hall located at the corner of 97th & Trumbull Avenue.

Troop 644 will be holding their annual car wash event at 9358 South Homan Avenue on May 8th from 9am until 12pm. The cost per vehicle is $5.

Weekly meetings are held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 pm until 8:00pm at First United Methodist Church, 9358 South Homan, Evergreen Park. Boys ages eleven and up are encourage to join. Meetings for cub scouts are held on Friday evenings same time and place. Previous scouts who are interested in serving as a leader or merit badge counselor are welcomed; training is required.

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Meet the Authors
Presentations and Book Signings

Lisa See
Sunday, April 11
1:00 pm

Lisa See is the author of the critically acclaimed international best seller *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* (2005).

See's new novel *Shanghai Girls* about two Chinese sisters who journey to California in the 1930s delves into forgotten history in a story of immigration, identity, war and love.

Jeff Zaslow
Friday, April 23
7:00 pm

Jeffrey Zaslow sparked a worldwide phenomenon with his Wall Street Journal column featuring the final lecture of Carnegie Mellon Professor Randy Pausch. *The Last Lecture* by Pausch and Zaslow is a #1 New York Times best seller book which has been translated into 43 languages.

Jeff's latest project, *Highest Duty*, is co-authored with Captain "Sully" Sullenberger, the pilot who successfully landed a damaged plane in New York's Hudson River in 2009.

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Illinois Railway Museum Rolls Out the Engines

Suddenly it's spring, time to shake off those winter blues and get outside. A bonanza of outdoor fun awaits in McHenry County, Illinois, just an hour's drive northwest of Chicago. But, before you hop in the car, check out all the fun things to do at www.visitmchenrycounty.com.

Illinois Railway Museum

It's a sure harbinger of spring when the Illinois Railway Museum throws open its gates for another season of the bygone era of railroading.

Frisco meets Northshore.

When you visit this cultural phenomenon in McHenry County's tiny Union, Illinois, you are immediately impressed by its size. Many train museums claim to be the "largest" in the nation, but this one, with more than 400 pieces of rolling stock, is the Real McCoy.

Railroads were once our nation's largest private employers, and the museum's mission is to demonstrate the vital role they played in America's growth and day-to-day life. This is truly a hands-on, interactive and educational experience for visitors of all ages.

On display are steam and diesel locomotives, along with countless streetcars, commuter trains, passenger cars, freight cars, dining cars, dome cars, baggage cars and cabooses, plus snowplows and track maintenance cars. They even have entire trains!

Many are on a roll, too. Ten miles of track loop around the grounds, offering rides on a variety of trains that transport you back in time. Listen to the clang of a little red streetcar as it crosses Depot Street and thrill to a thundering steam train.

Nine enormous display "barns" shelter trains in various stages of restoration, some are bright and shiny and in running order, others are works in progress. Each barn is so long, standing at one end is like looking for the proverbial "light" at the end of the tunnel!

In addition to exhibits on wheels, the museum includes an 1851 train depot, 1890 switching tower, 1910 Chicago "L" station and 1934 diner attached to a modern diner serving food to visitors. There's also a gift shop, new and used book stores and picnic area.

The Illinois Railway Museum is open weekends in April and October and daily May-September. Trains run daily Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, and on select weekends April, May, September and October. Admission is $8-$12 for adults, $4-$8 for kids and $25-$45 maximum for families. To help you sort all this out, visit www.irm.org, or phone 800-Big-Rail.

Outdoor Recreation

The McHenry County Conservation District manages more than 22,000 acres of woodlands, prairies, wetlands and savannas. Trails and other amenities have been added within 27 conservation areas, where the public can enjoy springtime hiking, biking, fishing and canoeing, picnicking, nature viewing and camping. For complete details, times and maps for all spring events, phone 815-338-6223 or online at www.mcdistrict.org .

Bring your bike and ride the 26-mile Prairie Trail which begins just south of Algonquin and runs north through eight McHenry County villages to the Wisconsin state line.

Beginning in May, forage for fresh spring produce, bedding plants, baked goods and local foods at the Woodstock Farmers Market, held 8 am to 1:30 pm every Tuesday and Saturday on Historic Woodstock Square (It was voted "Best in Illinois" last year!)

Two state parks — Moraine Hills and Chain O' Lakes — offer more fishing, canoeing, hiking, biking, bird-watching and camping. Toss in some eclectic restaurants, affordable hotels, cozy B&Bs, interesting shopping, and you've got the makings of a great spring getaway!

For details on the above and for suggestions on other ways to enjoy McHenry County this spring, go to www.VisitMcHenryCounty.com.

Nine Tips to Help Illinoisans Meet the Tax Filing Deadline

The deadline for filing your federal tax return is two weeks away. If you haven't filed your tax return yet, you're not alone. During the last two weeks of the tax filing season, IRS expects Illinoisans to file about 2 million federal tax returns and an estimated 400,000 extension requests. Here are some tips to avoid the stress at the eleventh hour and help beat the crush of the April 15th deadline.

Prepare Now – Make sure you have all the documents you need to file your tax return. Gather together your Forms W-2 (earnings statements) and 1099 (interest/dividend statements). If you own a home, you will need Form 1098 to get the amount of mortgage interest you paid. If you itemize, make sure you have the receipts for all your deductions such as charitable donations and medical expenses. You will also need a Social Security number (SSN) for yourself, spouse and any dependents listed on the return. If you don't e-file, check all math and data entries – including SSNs – to ensure they are correct and legible. Inaccurate or missing information could delay your refund.

"If you're filing a paper return, allow yourself enough time to review the return after it's finished," advised Sue Hales, IRS spokeswoman in Illinois. "Double check the accuracy of all math entries and Social Security numbers, attach all W-2s and appropriate schedules, and sign the tax return."

File Electronically – Even If You Owe – There's no need to hold on to your return because you owe money. You can file electronically now and set your automatic payment for April 15th. You can e-file using the IRS Free File program, through a tax preparer or using a personal computer and tax preparation software. If your 2009 adjusted gross income was $57,000 or less, you can prepare and e-file your federal tax return for free through the IRS Free File program. To Free File, go to the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov, click on Free File and select a software company that meets your needs. Remember, you must access all Free File software companies through the IRS Web site.

Electronic filing has many benefits. E-filing offers faster refunds, more accurate returns, paperless filing, and confirmation within 48 hours that IRS has accepted your tax return.

"If you are due a refund, e-filing and having your refund directly deposited into your bank account is the way to go," Hales said. "You should get your refund in about 10 days."

Check Out New Tax Credits and Deductions – There are several new tax credits and deductions available for tax year 2009. Be sure to check them out to see if you can benefit when filing your 2009 tax return. The First Time Homebuyer Credit provides a maximum $8,000 credit for homebuyers who haven't owned a home in the three years prior to their recent home purchase. The American Opportunity Credit can help offset the cost of college and many of those eligible will qualify for the maximum credit of $2,500 per student. If you made energy efficient improvements to your home in 2009, you may qualify for a Residential Energy Property Credit of up to $1,500. Did you purchase a new vehicle in 2009? If so, you may qualify for the new vehicle deduction which allows you to deduct the state and local sales and excise taxes paid on the new vehicle purchase. This deduction is available to taxpayers who itemize their deductions and to those who take the standard deduction. Go to IRS.gov to check on these and other tax benefits to see if you qualify.

Claim the Making Work Pay Credit – If you are eligible for the Making Work Pay Credit (even if you saw an increase in your take home pay last year for the credit), you must complete and attach Schedule M to your 2009 tax return to benefit from the credit. Eligible taxpayers who don't have taxes withheld by an employer during the year can claim the credit on their tax return.

Check to See If You Qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) – You may be eligible to get money back from the IRS. If you worked during 2009 and your adjusted gross income was under $48,279, you might qualify for the EITC. This valuable credit could mean up to $5,657 in extra cash for eligible individuals and families. Last year, Illinoisans claimed more than $1.9 billion in EITC with an average EITC amount of $2,107. EITC amounts are determined by income and family size. The EITC Assistant on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov can help you determine if you are qualified.

File for an Extension – Need more time to file your 2009 tax return? Request an extension and get an additional six months – until October 15th – to file your tax return. To get an extension, you must file Form 4868, *Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return*, with the IRS. It can be mailed to the IRS or e-filed. All extension requests must be filed no later than April 15, 2010. Form 4868 is available on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.

"Extensions only provide additional time to file your return – not to pay," Hales advised. "Estimate your tax liability and pay any balance due by April 15th."

File Your Tax Return Timely Even If You Can't Pay – Even if you can't pay the taxes you owe, you should file your return timely to avoid the late filing penalty.

Don't Miss Out on Unclaimed Refunds – More than 51,000 Illinoisans haven't filed a tax return for 2006 and are missing out on more than $55 million in unclaimed refunds. To collect these refunds, 2006 tax returns must be filed with the IRS no later than April 15, 2010. Half of these unclaimed refunds would be for more than $655.

Where to Get Tax Help or Forms – Go to the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov to get tax forms and publications as well as tax information. Recorded tax information on a variety of tax topics is available by calling 1-800-829-4477. Toll-free telephone assistance is available by calling the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. Get free tax help at nearly 400 volunteer income tax assistance sites throughout Illinois. These sites are often located at community centers, schools, local libraries or senior centers and volunteers are there to offer free tax return preparation and, at many sites, free electronic filing. Call 1-800-906-9887 for volunteer tax assistance site locations. Help is available at 14 IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers in Illinois. Check out the IRS Web site at IRS.gov for IRS office locations and hours.

Evergreen Park news letter

Tues - April 6 Ep Youth Commission holds Babysitters Class from 9am - 4pm for ages 12 or older. $40 per student. Must register at 229-3377 Wed. - 7th - EP Library invites teens grades 6-12 to sing Karaoke from 4-5pm.

Enjoy the spring weather at one of our parks playing ball, using the playground equipment or walking the track at Yukich Field.

Save the Date: April 10th the Evergreen Park Environmental Commission is hosting an Earth Day Celebration at the Activity Center 3320 W. 98th St.

April 17th Most Holy Redeemer School hosts Trivia Night at 6pm.

May 1st the EP Senior Citizen's Council is hosting "Memories to Go" a village wide garage sale at Yukich Field. Get a space at 422-8776.

Spring Tree Planting program has been extended to April 16th. Come to Village Hall to order your tree.

Rain Barrels are available now through the Village for $50. Call 229-8219 to order. We deliver.

Please help the Ronald McDonald House Care Mobile by voting at www.rmhc.org.

Troop 644 would like to thank everyone who came out in support of their annual pancake breakfast.

EP Fire Dept wants to remind you to call JULIE before you dig. Dial 811.

We remember the life and service of firefighter and resident Brian Carey.

beyond ordinary

by Jerome Haymaker

In the news there was an article about our president complaining of corruption and cronyism in their government. I didn't notice any mention of U.S. government cronyism or how much happens commonly in other governments around the world. Its common in Kabul to make friends by hiring family members even if they don't know the job. A woman complained about it at a minstry. She said the typist didn't know how to type, etc. etc. for many other positions. When she complained to their boss he said I can't fire them because they are my cousins. Now we don't care if they hire their relatives but someone has to know how to do the job as well. There are (Afghan) educated people available

I was asked to sit in on a class that was teaching basic letter writing to government officials from around Afghanistan. Most of them didn't speak English and probably had very low levels of education. The lessons were given in their language. These people were Governors of Provinces, etc. An (NGO) non government organization was paying for the classes. They would have done better to find educated (Afghan) people in various areas and paid for their service assisting (typing letter, processing computer files,etc.) while training the relatives how to do their jobs.

Most of the drivers in Afghanistan don't have drivers licenses and none of them have insurance. They regularly drive down one-way streets the wrong way even with heavy traffic coming the other way. I could explain how a lot of things are done (what we think of as backwards) there. You won't find toilet paper in the washroom. They use a small hose with a sprayer to clean up as an example. I was about the only American walking around town. I saw people from other countries but only a couple of Americans in the five months I was there

Most visitors are staying in compounds so they feel safe, but are afraid to leave. I was not overly concerned with my safety because I have had premonitions before when my safety was in jeopardy. I don't think its much safer because they could throw a bomb into the compound very easily if they wanted to harm someone. The walls of the buildings in Kabul are normally about two and half feet thick. This keeps it cool inside the building during the hot summer days and holds the heat for when its cool at night. Besides, bullets won't go through the wall

Editors Note: The decision to have a columnist who can be amusing, forthright, and clairvoyant is exciting. It seems that the author is dedicated to writing columns and sincere enough to send material for four months.

His name is Jerome, Jerry, Haymaker, resident of Florida and looking to be published in order to document his premonitions.

If you have any comments, or would like to get in touch with him, send us an email and we will be happy to forward it to him. Send all responses to vvnews@sbcglobal.net.

The follow information is in regards to the premonitions or extra ordinary happenings Jerry states. "It may help if you know the scope of these things and limits, as it pertains to me so far. During the stories about all the things that have happened to me sensing some future event or news, it has happened in several ways.

When it is a mental thing, you could think of it like when you are saying something to yourself, (mentally), and hear a voice in your mind and it is the voice of you thinking except when its not me thinking but listening, and someone else speaking. I always have to think about what I've heard and how I am going to react to it. The reaction is usually how I can use it to help who it concerns, if it is a problem. You have to understand that good things don't need fixing, only bad things do. Most of my family have never been warned about something by me, like that or heard any premonition concerning them, since I don't get to decide what I will get or when I will get it. I don't even know why it happens to me except to guess.

Could it be a scientific advancement of the future, sending messages into the past? Maybe, but my current expectation is that its God. I considered a lot of possibilities like ESP, Psychic or advanced intuition that could come from some primal survival instinct that develops more in some people, than others. Everyone is good or better at some things and this is the most extra ordinary thing about me. I'm only mediocre or poor at most other things even when I work at it. So after the outright voice in my mind or a vision, something that will be discussed on the news that day or come up in a conversation later in the day.

Sometimes it concerns a fatal accident that concerns me or someone else around me or someone I know. Another way I know is by hearing an audible voice when I am alone foretelling of some accident. Its never been about a natural disaster like earth quake or hurricane storm etc. I think I'll have one if someone is going to attack President Obama. I think there are similarities to Nostradamus but I don't know if I'll ever have one of the far distant future, like 100-1000 years or more. He probably didn't until he was very old

Night at the races in Tinley Park

Orland Fire Foundation will host Night at the Races sponsored by Heart Check America Tinley Park on Saturday, May 1st, from 6 - 10 pm at the Orland Park Civic Center. Tickets are $25 and available at the Orland Fire Administration Building, 9788 W. 151st Street.

A night at The Races is an audience participation event whereby pre-recorded thoroughbred races are shown to our participants to recreate the atmosphere of being at the track. Funny money is used to place your bets. Funny money is then used to bid on items at the end of the night.

There will also be tasting station provided by area restaurants and many door prizes.

All proceeds from this event will be used to fund fire safety awareness and training for our children and seniors; to inform them how to take preventive measures to protect themselves from serious injury or fatality in the event of a fire or medical emergency.

Please contact Tom Dubelbeis 708-921-0341 for event tickets, sponsorship opportunities and prize donations.

Laugh out Loud Comedy

The Trinity Christian College theatre program will perform its spring play, She Stoops to Conquer, April 16-17 and April 22-24, at 7:30 p.m. in the Marg Kallemeyn Theatre in the Art and Communication Center, 6601 W. College Dr., Palos Heights. An Opening Night Dinner Theatre will be held on Friday, April 16, at 6 p.m.

Ticket prices for the show are $10 for general admission and $7 for students and senior citizens. Tickets for the Opening Night Dinner Theatre are $40 for general admission and $37 for students and senior citizens; prices include dinner and admission to the play. All tickets are available for purchase through the college switchboard at 708.597.3000.

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E-mail address: vvnew (a sbcglobal.net

Far South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Oak Forest / Orland Park / Tinley Park

Volume 8 Number 7

April 6, 2010

Senior Prom scheduled in Tinley Park

On Saturday, April 17, 2010 ladies and gentlemen age 55 and over will gather for a delightful afternoon of music, dancing, refreshments, and of course, the crowning of the 2010 Senior Prom King and Queen. The event will be held at the Bettenhausen Recreation Center, 8125 W. 171st Street, Tinley Park from 2:00-4:00 pm. and will feature live music provided by the Arts Alive! Community Jazz Band. Presented by the Tinley Park High School (TPHS) Interact Club, the event is co-sponsored by the Tinley Park-Park District, and the Tinley Park-Frankfort Rotary Club.

According to Interact Club moderator Tanisha Parks, the event originated with the Interact Club members. "The group decided that they wanted to do something for the senior members of our community, and came up with the idea for a dance, or prom," Parks commented. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people ages 14 to 18. Interact clubs are self-governing and self-supporting, and are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance. The Tinley Park-Frankfort Rotary Club has sponsored TPHS's Interact Club for eight years.

The Tinley Park-Park District became involved when Laurie Faneth, Recreation Supervisor for the Park District heard of the students' idea and jumped on board. "I had been thinking of trying something new for our seniors, and thought the students had a great idea," Faneth commented. "I wasn't sure what to expect from the students that first year, but was totally impressed when they just took the ball and ran with it. They even got the seniors out on the dance floor and really made the event a huge success," she added.

The Senior Prom is free for everyone age 55 and over. Advance registration is required and space is limited. Anyone interested in attending may contact the Tinley Park-Park District at (708) 342-4200 for additional information, or visit www.tinleyparkdistrict.org. The RSVP deadline is April 13, 2010.

Program on Aging in Place coming to the Acorn Public Library

The Acorn Public Library District will host a program about the concept of aging-in-place on Thursday, April 8th at 7 PM. This program, entitled Where Do You Want to Spend Your Golden Years, will explore home modifications that will allow an aging person to live comfortably, conveniently and safely in their own home for as long they choose to do so.

It will be presented by local contractor Glen Borkowski, who has earned a Certified Aging in Place (CAPS) designation from the National Association of Homebuilders.

In 1999, AARP Magazine asked its readers, "Where to do you want to spend your golden years?" The overwhelming response was, "I want to remain in my own home for as long as I possibly can." This seminar explains how baby boomers can take a proactive approach in planning for home modifications that will accommodate them or an aging family member as mobility begins to decline. These modifications can eliminate the need to move to a nursing home or an assisted-living facility.

Glen Borkowski founded Kraftwerks Remodeling, now doing business as DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen, in 1991. He has over 25 years of experience in the remodeling profession, specializing in the interior residential market. In 1996, Glen earned the Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR) designation from the National Association of Home Builders. It is the highest designation obtainable in the remodeling industry. In 2002, Glen earned the Certified Aging in Place (CAPS) designation. The coursework involves specific training in making home modifications so that anyone, regardless of age, ability or mobility level can remain in their home and live safely, comfortably and independently. Fewer than 3% of all remodelers in the country have achieved and maintained these designations.

Glen is a member of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI), National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA) and both Tinley Park and Orland Park Chambers of Commerce.

Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in Oak Forest. Interested individuals are encouraged to call (708) 687-3700 to register their attendance, admission is free.

Orland Park Garden Walk planned

The Village of Orland Park is seeking outstanding residential properties in the Old Orland Tuckaway areas of Orland Park to showcase at the sixth annual Open Lands of Orland Park Garden Walk on Sunday, June 27, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is not a competition and yards may be any size, maintained and planted either professionally or by the homeowner. Six homes will be selected for this fund raising event. The properties must be single family homes within the corporate limits of the Village of Orland Park.

Residents who would like to have their yards considered for the tour are asked to send pictures of their property along with their name, address, subdivision, and phone number to Village of Orland Park Garden Walk 2007, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue, Orland Park, IL 60462, or email to info@orlandpark.il.us, no later than April 16, 2010.

The Garden Walk is dedicated to the memory of Shirley Fazio, a long time village commission member and community volunteer. Proceeds benefit Open Lands of Orland Park. For more information, please call 708-403-6145.

Crisis Center for South Suburbia to hold Golf Marathon

Dust off your clubs and join us out on the course! We will be hosting our 6th annual Longest Day of Golf Marathon on Thursday, May 6, 2010 at Silver Lake CC in Orland Park. This event is only open to 36 golfers so make sure you jump on board quickly. Golfers may golf up to 54 holes/3 rounds in one day. Your green fees, cart, food, and beverages for the day are completely free - all we do is challenge you to raise at least $1,000 in sponsorship pledges, and that is easy to do. You may find out more information about the event and how you can support it by viewing our website www.crisisctr.org, by contacting Janice at jlagunge crisisctr.org or at 708-429-7255, ext. 126. The net profit from this event benefits the Crisis Center for South Suburbia.

Orland Doctor to put in drive up windows

A doctor plans to open a medical office in Orland Park with a drive-up window. Dr. Waldemar Nowak and his wife, Mary Jane Nowak, plan to convert the former Vito & Nick's restaurant into medical offices equipped with two drive up bays. Traditional walk-in medical offices will be available as well.

Orland Park officials said the drive-up bays will be used by patients seeking medical attention, but Dr. Nowak declined to elaborate on how the drive ups would be used.

"This is my own idea," Dr. Nowak said.

The plans were approved Monday by the village board's development services committee. The Orland Park Village Board must still approve the project.

"I think it's an interesting idea," Trustee Pat Gira said. "They're repurposing an existing building."

The building at 51 Orland Square Drive has housed a couple of restaurants and a record store in the past, but has been vacant for several years. The doctor and his wife will renovate the existing 3,687-square-foot building and build additions on either side. The additions will total 3,048 square feet.

E-mail address: vvnew @sbcglobal.net

South Suburban Edition

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Volume 11 Number 7

April 6, 2010

ComEd Reports Reduction in Electricity Usage during Earth Hour

As Chicago residents, businesses and landmarks turned off the lights during the third annual Earth Hour, ComEd again registered a noticeable decline in electricity usage of about 1 percent in the City of Chicago and throughout its northern Illinois service territory.

To calculate the energy reduction achieved during the hour, ComEd compared its customers' electricity usage during the 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. hour on March 26, to the preceding 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. hour.

The reduction in electricity usage in the City of Chicago and ComEd's northern Illinois service territory during Earth Hour was estimated to be about 100 megawatt hours. The energy reduction is the equivalent of removing 124,320 pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, or planting 15 acres of trees.

Organized globally by the World Wildlife Federation (WWF), Earth Hour was kicked off locally by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and ComEd Vice President of Environmental Services Val Jensen switching off the famous downtown marquee of the Chicago Theater.

In addition to Chicago, more than 30 municipalities participated in Earth Hour, including Algonquin, Bolingbrook, Carol Stream, Deerfield, DeKalb, Evanston, Hoffman Estates, Homer Glen, Lombard, Mount Prospect, Naperville, Oak Lawn, Oak Park, Olympia Fields, Orland Park, Rolling Meadows, Roselle, Schaumburg and South Elgin. Other participants across the state included:

- Approximately 200 downtown Chicago buildings
- State Capitol Dome, the Governor's Mansion and all State of Illinois government buildings
- More than 70 colleges, universities, and secondary and primary schools
- More than 12 museums
- More than 10 park districts, including 250 Chicago Park District field houses and facilities

"Earth Hour is a symbolic demonstration that small efforts, when performed on a large scale, can have a positive long-term impact," said Anne Pramaggiore, ComEd president and chief operating officer. "For the third consecutive year, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley and ComEd customers have shown that energy conservation is an economical way to slow climate change and benefit our environment."

ComEd was the presenting sponsor of Earth Hour Illinois. Earth Hour is a global initiative of the World Wildlife Fund. ComEd encouraged its 3.8 million customers and employees to participate to raise awareness about global climate change and the benefits of energy efficiency.

This year represented the third year ComEd has served as the lead local sponsor of Earth Hour. It reflects Exelon 2020, an aggressive environmental strategy by ComEd's parent company, Exelon, to reduce, offset, or displace more than 15 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year by 2020.

Customers can learn how to reduce energy use and save money year round by visiting www.ComEd.com.

Worth Park District announces schedule

Soc Hop and Activity Night

Come out this Friday, April 9 to Worth Park District's Soc Hop and Activity night to enjoy the latest music, socialize with friends and play some games. Wii, foosball, and bean bags will be a couple of the activities available. Concession will also be available at a small fee. This event is for grades 6 – 8 and will take place at the Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit) from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. The cost is $5.00 resident and $7.00 non resident.

Senior Lunch at the Terrace Centre

Calling all Seniors! Enjoy a delicious home-made lunch, bingo and conversation with old and new friends. Residents and non residents are encouraged to attend. Please register and reserve your spot today! Senior Lunch will be on Wednesday, April 21 from 12:00 – 2:00 PM. The cost is $5.00 pre-registration and $7.00 at the door.

Worth History Day: A Narrated Bus Tour of Worth

Where's the Worth Dairy? Was Ch Ch a goat farm? Was there a horse race track in worth and what is there now? All these questions and more will be answered as you spend the afternoon exploring worth village history. After the tour, stay and socialize with our very own "Living History" residents and watch "The History of Worth" tour on DVD. This tour leaves from the Terrace Centre and is on Sunday, May 2 from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM for ages 18 and up. The cost for the tour is $5.00 per person. The deadline to register is April 25.

Everyone is a star this season with Tumblebear Gymnastics. Come check out Worth Park District's gymnastics programs to learn new skills and experience the balance beam, vault, bars, tumbling and a variety of air mat equipment. These classes will helps students increase self-worth, confidence, hand eye coordination, rhythms and overall gymnastic skills. Preschool Gymnastics session begins Tuesdays, April 13 – May 18 from 3:30 – 4:05 PM for ages 3 – 5. School Age Gymnastics session begins Tuesdays, April 13 – May 18 from 4:15 – 5:00 PM for ages 6 – 12. Preschool Gymnastics and School Age Gymnastics class fees are $54.00 resident and $74.00 non-resident. The registration deadline for both classes is April 6. Classes are held at the Worth Park District's Terrace Centre.

Men's Adult 16" Softball League

It's time to pull those cleats out of the closet and get your softball buddies ready for another season of 16" softball with the Worth Park District. This 16" softball league will start Monday, May 3 at Peaks Park (10707 Oak Park Ave.) with games starting from 6:30 – 9:30 PM for ages 18 and up. Each team is guaranteed 10 games plus entrance to the single elimination tournament at the conclusion of the season. Captains meeting will be April 19th at 6:30 PM and all teams are encouraged to attend this meeting because several league options will be voted on. The cost for the league is $595.00 for resident teams and $695.00 for non-resident teams. The registration deadline is April 19. For more information regarding any of the aforementioned events, or to learn about other events and activities, please call the Worth Park District's Terrace Centre at (708) 448-7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org.

Free Presentation at Smith Crossing Brings to Life Burnham's Chicago

Terry Lynch as Daniel Burnham

Learn about Chicago's rich history through the eyes of Daniel Burnham, the architect of the 1909 Chicago Plan, at this free presentation, Wed., April 7, at 2 p.m. at Smith Crossing, 10501 Emilie Lane in Orland Park, Ill. (near the intersection of 104th Ave. and 183rd St.) in the independent Living Multi-Purpose Room. The event is free, but reservations are required. Please call 708-326-2300. Burnham's character, portrayed by Terry Lynch, an actor from the HFK theater group in Orland Park, informs and entertains as he brings a period of Chicago's dynamic growth to life. You'll get new insights into the Columbian Exposition of 1893, the Union Stockyards and Chicago's fabulous architecture as the character of Burnham introduces you to the people and events that shaped the "Windy City," and helped transform it from the "Wild Onion" to the "City of the Big Shoulders."

E-mail address: vvnew @sbcglobal.net

B-MAC EDITION

WE SERVE OUR COMMUNITY WITH GOOD NEWS!

VILLAGE VIEW

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 Number 7

April 6, 2010

Alsip approves TIF study

By
Matt Mayer

The village board approved a request at the March 15 Alsip Board of Trustees meeting to proceed with a feasibility study for a Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district for the proposed Pulaski Corridor redevelopment project. The request was approved at committee meeting on March 8. A TIF district uses tax revenues to finance improvements within the district and is also free from local taxing bodies such as libraries and schools. The property tax in a TIF is frozen at the current amount prior to redevelopment, municipalities are also allowed to offer incentives to attract business. The maximum life of a TIF is 23 years.

Other highlights: The village board approved an ordinance amending a chapter and a section of the municipal code pertaining to general penalty for offences and continuing violations as well as an ordinance amending a chapter, article and a section of the Alsip municipal code regarding license permits and business regulations and a self storage facility use fee. An ordinance for the resubdivision of property at the northwest corner of 116th and Laporte Avenue along with lot size variances for lots one and two and an ordinance for a Federal Order of Police collective bargaining agreement from May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2012 was also approved.

A request to advertise for bids to repair and replace the surface on the 3.2 million at 117th and Kedvale was approved as well as a request to advertise for bids for asphalt repair and seal coating for Heritage II senior apartments. The 2010 Motor Fuel Tax allotment of $37,140.05 was also approved.

Women with knee pain can benefit from free seminars about treatment options

During the month of April, MetroSouth Medical Center is offering a series of free clinics about treatment options for women with knee pain. The seminars will feature three board-certified orthopedic surgeons from Chicago's south side, as part of the hospital's "Knee Pain Loves Women" campaign. The focus will be options available to those with osteoarthritis, including knee replacement surgery.

Attendees of the "Knee Pain Love's Women" seminars will walk away with a goody bag, consisting of quad and hamstring strengthening exercise cards and a MetroSouth Medical Center resistance band for use at home or in the office. During each seminar, the hospital will raffle off 10 complimentary knee x-rays for those women who meet appropriate criteria.

The seminars will review the latest treatment options available for women with knee pain. The dates and locations are as follows:

Thursday, April 15, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Beverly Country Club, 8700 S. Western Ave., Chicago, IL – Drs. Paul and Robert Atkenson

Tuesday, April 27, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Lobby at MetroSouth Medical Center, 12935 S. Gregory St., Blue Island, IL – Dr. Carl DiLella, who is team physician for the Chicago Machine (lacrosse)

Thursday, April 29, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Raday Lodge, Midlothian Park District, 3220 W. 145th St. (145th & Kedzie), Midlothian, IL – Dr. Bruce Dolitsky

To register for a free seminar, call MetroSouth Medical Center at 708-489-7927.

Sertoma Centre, Inc. Announces Big Event 2010

Sertoma Centre, Inc. announced that Saturday, May 15th, 2010 is the date scheduled for the Big Event 2010. The event will be held at 115 Bourbon Street in Merrionette Park, IL from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm and promises to be even bigger and better than before. Supported by Southtown Star Newspaper and the Arleen S. Andrew Foundation the Big Event offers great food and a great time for everyone. You can enjoy live entertainment, music, celebrity judges from the sports world and TV/Radio, Big Raffle, $5000 Grand Prize, many cash prizes and lots of activities for the children. We are thrilled to announce that we will have Dave Fleming (pictured above), magician and juggler on stage again this year dazzling children and adults alike with his amazing skills. Ticket prices are the same low price as last year – Adults $10 for entry fee donation/food sample tickets, children 12 & under $5, children under 3, free.

Firefighters - enter the Firefighters Cook-off Competition. If you consider yourself to be the best firehouse chef in the city or suburbs then this competition is for you. Prepare your delicious recipe for chicken, chili, ribs or ethnic dishes and compete to be the next Champion Chef.

Business owners - become a Big Event sponsor and show your support of Sertoma Centre, Inc., and the individuals with disabilities we serve. Sertoma has six sponsorship levels to work with every budget. This year we have made every effort to offer more value for the dollars we hope you donate as part of the BIG Event Sponsorship program.

Registration forms for Cook-off or Event Sponsorships, and information on our programs and services are located on the website, www.sertomacentre.org or please contact Melanie Jones, Director of Advancement and Communications, (708) 730-6206 or mjones@sertomacentre.org.

All proceeds from this event benefit programs at Sertoma Centre Alsip, IL for over 650 individuals with developmental, physical, emotional disabilities, and/or mental illness. Our services include vocational evaluation, developmental training, community based assessments, senior programming, work adjustment training,residential services, janitorial skills training, foster care, job placement services, supported employment, specialized services, school transition services, psychosocial rehabilitation, and a sheltered workshop program.

2nd Annual Walk, Run or Roll ½ Mile Race

Join South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) on Sunday, May 2nd, 2010, for the fun and exciting 2nd Annual Walk, Run or Roll 1/2 Mile Race! This race is specifically designed so that individuals with special needs, age 8 and older, can participate in a community event that is held in conjunction with the 3rd Annual Palos Bank Southwest Half Marathon. The Walk, Run or Roll race will begin at 7:30 a.m. at Palos Heights City Hall, just west of Route 83 and 76th Avenue.

Completed registrations, medical forms and waivers must be submitted by Wednesday, April 28, 2010 in order to compete in the event. Forms may be picked up at the SWSRA office, 12521 S. Kostner Ave. in Alsip, or may be downloaded at www.swsra.com.

SWSRA asks that all participating athletes be checked in by 7:00 a.m. The fee is $15 dollars per athlete and includes a t-shirt and participation medal. A "buddy" is allowed to assist an athlete for free and may purchase a "buddy" t-shirt for $5.00. The proceeds from the race will benefit participating Special Recreation Associations.

For more information, please contact the SWSRA office at (708) 389-9123.

Burlington Coat Factory signed in SW Suburbs

Burlington Coat Factory signed a lease for 70,000 square feet of space formerly occupied by Menards at the corner of Cicero Avenue and Calumet Sag Road in Crestwood, Ill. According to Richard Spinell, Principal of Oakbrook Terrace-based Mid-America Asset Management, Inc., Burlington Coat Factory is expected to open in August 2010 and will co-tenant this 175,427 square-foot center with Kohl's. The Burlington Coat Factory lease was transacted by Mid-America Principal Richard Spinell and Senior Leasing Representative Mary Beth Menelli on behalf of the landlord, with Brad Gershman of Gershman, Brown & Crowley representing the tenant. Burlington Coat Factory, a national, publicly held retailer based in Burlington, NJ, specializes in branded apparel at everyday low prices. For more information, call (630) 954-7300 or visit midamericagrp.com.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 36 | Number 20 | April 20, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Oak Lawn approves tax split with Napleton

By
Matt Mayer

The Oak Lawn Village Board approved an ordinance at the April 13 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting regarding a business development agreement between the village and Ed Napleton Honda. Under the agreement Napleton will split a portion of the tax revenue with the village, an annual figure of $357,720. The agreement is retroactive to Jan 1 and Napleton hopes to have the necessary permits and reviews from the village by June.

The agreement is for 11 years or a maximum of $2-million which ever comes first. This is the estimated amount which Napleton projects would be needed to renovate the Dodge dealership into a Honda dealership.

The village has similar tax agreements with Mancari's Chrysler Jeep, which plans to also pick up a Dodge franchise, as well as tax agreements with Oak Lawn Mazda and the now closed Saturn Dealership, which fell victim to General Motors closing the division.

The Honda franchise, which is now located at 6701 W. 95th Street will move to the former Napleton Dodge dealership at 5800 W. 95th Street. The Dodge dealership was one of 789 dealerships that Chrysler announced they would close across the country when the company filed for chapter 11-bankruptcy protection in May of 2009.

Village Officials said they are committed to do what ever it takes to help the dealers since the village relies heavily on the sales tax income from the car dealers, which is projected to be as high as 30 percent of the villages operating fund.

Oak Lawn Public Library

The following films will be shown in the library's lower level meeting room. Please observe the movie ratings for age restrictions.

The Blind Side (2009) Monday, April 26 at 2 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. -- Note earlier evening start -- The heartwarming story of a homeless and traumatized boy who becomes an All American football player and first round NFL draft pick with the help of a caring woman and her family. Starring Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw and Quinton Aaron. Rated: PG-13, 128 min.

The Wizard of Oz "Sing-Along" (1939) -- Saturday, May 1 at 2 p.m. -- There's no place like the library when we head "Over the Rainbow" with Dorothy on her adventures through Oz. Come sing along with all the songs in this interactive movie experience. Based on the book by L. Frank Baum. Rated: G. 101 min.

A Night to Remember (1958) -- Thursday, May 13 at 10 a.m. -- The true story of the sinking of the R.M.S. Titanic on its maiden voyage in 1912. This film focuses on the accounts of real people who sailed on the ship. Based on the book by Walter Lord. Rated: PG. 123 min.

It's Complicated (2009) -- Wednesday, May 26 at 2 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. -- Note earlier evening start -- A hilarious look at marriage, divorce and everything in between. When attending their son's college graduation, a couple reignite the spark in their relationship. but the complicated fact is they're divorced and he's remarried. Starring Meryl Streep, Alec Baldwin and Steve Martin. Rated: R. 120 min.

Coming June through August 2010 -- The "Reel Book" summer movie series!

Children's Program Highlights

These free activities are offered for children ages six months to fourteen years, their parents, and other caregivers. Registration for many of these programs begins Saturday, August 29, unless otherwise noted. Sign up in person at the Youth Services Desk. You must present the child's library card to enroll. Preference is given to Oak Lawn residents and students. Residents of other communities will be placed on a waiting list until it can be determined whether they can be accommodated. Each child's library card must be presented at the time of registration. The complete rules and restrictions for all activities and events are listed in a program booklet, which you may pick up at the library or view on our web site (www.oaklawnlibrary.org)

Exploring Nature (Grades K-2) -- Thursday, April 22 from 4-5 p.m. -- Join Emily Kenny of Multidisciplinary Education for the Environment (MEE) as she leads monthly scientific explorations with fun activities. Advance registration required. Sign up for each month separately. Limit: 30.

Read to Rover (Age 7 & up) -- Saturday, April 24 -- 15 minute period during 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. -- Advance in-person registration required -- Young readers and special needs children can sign up for a 15-minute time slot to read aloud to a registered therapy dog from the Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy of Chicago. Sign up for each month separately.

The Write Stuff (Grades 3-5) -- Tuesday, April 27 from 4-5 p.m. -- Young writers will flex their creative muscles with a series of exercises that they can complete during each program session. Advance registration required. Sign up for each month separately. Limit: 20.

Adult Program Highlights

Our library hosts a variety of lectures, workshops and entertainment offerings for a variety of interests. Free admission and no advance registration required, unless otherwise noted.

National Parks Travelogue - Thursday, April 15 at 7 p.m. -- John Lynn will share a slide show of images that take you on his 600 mile mountain bicycle ride from Jackson Hole, Wyoming to West Glacier, Montana. Sights include Grand Teton, Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks, and a whole lot of Big Sky Country.

Job Search Techniques -- Thursday, April 29 at 7 p.m. -- Advance in-person registration and fee required -- Learn about how to target and research prospective employers, informational interviewing, salary negotiations and methods for networking from a representative of the Moraine Valley Workforce and Development Department. In-person registration begins: Saturday, March 13 at the Reception Booth. Fee: $5 for materials. Limit: 25.

Strike Garage Sale Gold -- Thursday, May 6 at 7 p.m. Your trash becomes somebody else's treasure! Cindy Sykora will explain how to prepare and conduct garage and yard sales that are profitable and fun to do. Discover tips and tactics to help you attract more buyers and increase your sales. Learn how to advertise, organize and merchandise your items to maximize on profits.

The Titanic & Her Times -- Saturday, May 15 at 2 p.m. -- Travel back in time with Titanic Historian Denise Vanaria playing the role of Mrs. Thomas Andrews, Jr., wife of the Titanic ship designer who tragically perished with that "unsinkable" craft. Ms. Vanaria will appear in authentic Titanic era attire selected from her large collection of Edwardian clothing. View authentic artifacts associated with the Titanic and the Edwardian era.

Sunday With Friends Concert: The Crown Vics -- Sunday, May 23 from 2-4 p.m. -- A jumpin' afternoon of 1950s juke joint and dancehall favorites. Sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lawn Library.

Beer: A History of Brewing in Chicago -- Monday, May 24 at 7 p.m. -- Author and brewer Bob Skilnik will provide an intoxicating look into Chicago's beer brewing history in this entertaining and informative slide lecture presentation. Copies of his latest book will be available for purchase at a discounted price. Sorry, no beer samples. For futher details call 708-422-4990.

Local History Room amounces new exhibit

Join us for the unveiling of this new exhibit on Saturday, May 22 at 9 a.m. in the second floor Local History Room. Come and view photographs and artifacts that tell the story of nineteen historic structures throughout Oak Lawn, including the Auschwitz House, Keyhole House, Covington School and Trinity Lutheran Church. Once the exhibit opens, you may stop in anytime during the hours posted for the Local History Room. This special exhibit will be available for viewing through early 2011.

For more information about this and other local history topics, contact Local History Coordinator Kevin Korst by phone, 708-422-4990.

Lipinski's NSF reauthorization approved by Subcommittee

Today, under the guidance of Chairman Dan Lipinski, the House Committee on Science and Technology's Subcommittee on Research and Science Education held a markup and favorably reported legislation based on H.R. 4997, the National Science Foundation Authorization Act of 2010, which was introduced by Chairman Lipinski.

"The Subcommittee has held a series of hearings on topics ranging from the state of STEM education at all levels, to the need to promote high-risk high-reward research, to ensuring a sustainable research infrastructure. In addition to our Subcommittee hearings, I've also held a number of listening sessions across the country to gain insights from those on the frontline of research facilitated by the NSF," stated Chairman Lipinski. "The result of the listening sessions and the Subcommittee hearings is a bill that will accelerate the growth of scientific knowledge, promote knowledge transfer and innovation, build a 21st century Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) workforce, and spur economic development."

Chairman Lipinski's bill keeps NSF on a doubling path, as was recommended in the 2005 National Academies' report Rising Above the Gathering Storm and set in the 2007 America COMPETES Act. It aims to help scientists and engineers funded by NSF to serve as more effective leaders and participants in STEM education; broaden participation in STEM at all levels; and ensure U.S. competitiveness and national security through technology transfer and commercialization.

The reauthorization directs NSF to spend at least five percent of its research budget to fund high-risk, high-reward research proposals. This was based on reports and recommendations from Rising Above the Gathering Storm, the 2007 National Science Board's Enhancing Support of Transformative Research at the National Science Foundation, the 2008 American Academy of Arts and Sciences' ARISE: Advancing Research in Science and Engineering, and witness testimony at a hearing on the subject last October.

Chairman Lipinski's bill will also help NSF support U.S. manufacturers by awarding grants to institutions of higher education to support fundamental research leading to transformative advances in manufacturing technologies, processes, and systems that will support U.S. manufacturing through improved performance, productivity, and competitiveness.

The Committee Print includes an amendment from Chairman Lipinski to create an innovation inducement prize pilot program at the NSF.

"This is another way to encourage high-risk, high-reward research," Chairman Lipinski said. "Unlike a traditional grant proposal, which necessarily focuses on incremental challenges that can be solved during the grant period, a prize contest can highlight important problems that nobody knows how to solve. A prize program can also generate excitement and interest in the frontiers of science. Ultimately the goal is to further diversify our approach to funding science and engineering. There are a number of potential benefits, and a pilot program is the right way to see exactly how useful innovation inducement prizes can be."

The Committee also approved a Manager's Amendment from Chairman Lipinski which included legislative language from three bills: H.R. 4998, H.R. 4955, and H.R. 4968.

H.R. 4998 establishes and expands partnerships that promote innovation and increase the economic and social impact of research by developing tools and resources to connect new scientific discoveries to practical uses.

The Transforming Undergraduate STEM Education Act, H.R. 4955, authorizes the NSF to provide grants for implementing or expanding research based reforms in undergraduate STEM education for the purpose of increasing the number and quality of students studying toward and completing baccalaureate degrees in STEM.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
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Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnews@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Criminal Sexual Assault

Reported: March 11, 2010. Where: 14700 South Central Avenue, Oak Forest, IL., 13100 block of South Central Avenue, Crestwood, IL.; Offender: Adkins, Ryan Scott. (pictured to the right) 14700 South Central Avenue, Oak Forest, IL., Male White, Age: 39 Charges: 2 Counts Predatory Criminal Sex Assault.

The Oak Forest and Crestwood Police Departments conducted a criminal investigation into allegation that the listed offender, Ryan S. Adkins, had inappropriate sexual contact with juvenile family members over the last several years.

Due to the age and the juvenile status of the victims, no further identifying information will be provided.

Investigators from the Oak Forest and Crestwood Police Departments conducted the investigation jointly. The offender lived at the above address in Oak Forest where some of the incidents took place. The offender had a previous address in Crestwood where other offenses occurred. As per Cook County protocol, the victims were interviewed by juvenile specialists trained in interview techniques for juvenile victims.

The offender has been in police custody since April 15, 2010 and today the Cook County State's Attorney's authorized the above charges. The offender will appear in bond court on April 17, 2010 at the Markham Avenue location.

The offender is listed as the Vice President of the Oak Forest Barracudas swim team. The swim team is coed with children aged 6-17 years of age. The President of the swim team has been in contact with police authorities. As of this time, there are no known victims involving the swim team.

Chief Gregory Anderson of the Oak Forest Police Department and Chief Theresa Neubauer of the Crestwood Police Department commented "our hearts go out to all sexual assault victims but, as in this case, it is even more traumatic when it involves a trusted family member". In addition "the cooperation of our two police agencies and the hard work conducted by our investigators, resulted in charges being brought against this offender."

Anyone needing further information is asked to call the Oak Forest Police Department at 708-687-1376 or the Crestwood Police Department at 708-371-4801.

Chicago Portage announce National Historic Site Tour

Friends of the Chicago Portage would like to announce a free public tour of the Chicago Portage National Historic Site. This tour will be lead by veteran tour guide Gary Mechanic. We will explore the "Birth Story" of Chicago from the geologic beginnings of the Portage to how it is still functioning in Chicago today. One of only two National Historic Sites in Illinois, the Chicago Portage National Historic Site is the only place where you can stand on the same ground walked upon by all the explorers, early settlers and creators of Chicago. Tours are approximately a 1½2 mile in length on a gravel path through the woods and take about two hours. Wear long pants and walking shoes or boots. Tours run rain or shine.

The late Tribune columnist John Husar, after touring the site called it: "Our sacred ground". It is certainly Chicago's "Plymouth Rock".

All tours are free and open to the public. Location: The Chicago Portage National Historic Site is at 4800 S. Harlem which is on the west side of Harlem Ave. (7200W) just 2 blocks north of the Stevenson Expressway (I55). Meet at the monumental statue of Joliet and Marquette and their Native American guide at 10am. Sponsor: Friends of the Chicago Portage. Contact Gary Mechanic at 773-590-0710 (cell) or visit www.chicagoportage.org

Chicago Community Trust announces Third Annual Fellowship Program

The Chicago Community Trust, metropolitan Chicago's community foundation, is pleased to announce the third Chicago Community Trust Fellowship Program. The Trust's fellowship program is designed to elevate the careers of Chicago leaders and increase their future impact on the Chicago metropolitan area by investing in their professional development.

The Trust Fellowship offers professional development opportunities for both emerging and experienced leaders in the nonprofit and public sectors. Successful fellows must be open to new learning, have a track record of accomplishments, have potential for significant community impact and possess a strong commitment to building organizations in the nonprofit and public sectors.

"The fellowship program continues our tradition of supporting leadership development to benefit the nonprofit and public sectors," said Ngoan Le, vice president of program for the Trust. "There is a growing need to increase the diversity in leadership and we hope to outfit the future leaders of our community with resources and possibilities."

The Chicago Community Trust fellows have the choice of taking a leave from work or continuing to work while engaging in professional development activities. The Chicago Community Trust Fellowship provides financial resources which can cover current salary and benefits for time off, costs related to academic courses, coaching, learning from other practitioners and other associated expenses. The Trust anticipates awarding up to ten fellowships, up to seven for emerging leaders and three for experienced leaders. The length of the fellowship is 12 months, beginning January 1, 2011.

The Trust will hold a Q & A session on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. at following location: The Illinois Room at The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago located at 230 S. LaSalle Street.

RSVP to Janice Pacheco at fellowship@cet.org by 12 p.m. on Monday, April 26. Due to security procedures at the Federal Reserve, no one will be admitted without an RSVP. Please remember to bring your photo ID and check in with security when you arrive. The application deadline for the fellowship is May 26, 2010. For more information and to apply online go to www.cetfellowship.org

Poland: Remembering Two Tragedies

by Dr. Paul Kengor

The crash of a Polish airplane in the Russian territory of Smolensk last weekend is a stunning tragedy, taking the life of Polish President Lech Kaczynski, his wife, and high-level figures in the Polish government. Upwards of 100 people were obliterated. Kaczynski was a former Solidarity freedom fighter, and wonderfully anti-Soviet, anti-Russian, and pro-American. The event, obviously, is international front-page news. What was not, however, was the event that inspired Kaczynski's flight: the 1940 Katyn Woods massacre. This, too, was a stunning tragedy, one not admitted by the Russians for nearly 50 years, when Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev finally, officially conceded the USSR's responsibility. Here, it's worth pausing to revisit what happened at Katyn. Doing so is a fitting tribute to Poland's horrible loss.

The Katyn Woods massacre was one of the worst war crimes of the bloody 20th century. It was rooted in a pact between two devils, Hitler and Stalin, who in September 1939 jointly invaded, annihilated, and partitioned Poland. The Soviets seized thousands of Polish military officers as prisoners.

Their fate was secretly sealed on March 5, 1940 when Stalin signed their death warrant, condemning 21,857 of them to "the supreme penalty: shooting." What happened next remained a state secret for a half century. The Polish officers were taken to three primary sites, the most infamous of which bears the namesake of the crime, the Katyn Woods, located 12 miles west of Smolensk, Russia. There, these unsuspecting men, Poland's best and brightest, were methodically slaughtered like farm animals. The Bolsheviks covered their crime with a thin layer of dirt. The locals shuddered at the howling cries of dying men echoing through their once peaceful woods. One Russian farmer later told authorities: "For approximately four to five weeks there were three to four trucks daily driving to the forest loaded with people.... I could hear the shooting and screaming of men's voices." Some Poles were destroyed on site in the forest, whereas others were first shot in the NKVD prison in Smolensk, with their rotting corpses transported to Katyn for burial under a few inches of soil. At the prison, bullets were fired 24/7 by a cadre of deranged, homicidal NKVD KGB killers who were so consumed with bloodlust, and so taken by the dark side that, in the end, their work finished, they turned their guns on themselves. Death had consumed them. In April 1943, it was the Germans, then at war with the USSR and advancing with lightning speed into Soviet territory, who discovered the mass graves.

They immediately tried to turn the atrocity into a propaganda coup to split the Big Three Allies: the USSR, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Of course, the Soviets, being masters of lies, responded by claiming the Nazis were the perpetrators. Stalin and his goons attempted to blame Hitler and *his* goons. Stuck in between was the rest of the civilized world, which sought to determine which devil did the deed. For the record, in the United States, Ambassador Jan Cieckanowski of the Polish government-in-exile and Congressman John Lesinski (D-Mich.) were certain the Soviets did it. For this, they were denounced by FDR's hideous Office of War Information, which we now know was one of the most infiltrated agencies of the entire wartime federal government, penetrated by communist spies and sympathizers. FDR refused to believe that the government of his pal "Uncle Joe"—his term of endearment for Stalin—was involved. This greatly frustrated men like former Pennsylvania Governor George Earle, a fellow Democrat who FDR had appointed to investigate the matter, and who knew the Soviets were guilty as sin. FDR disagreed, fully buying the Soviet line, telling Earle: "George, they [the Nazis] could have rigged things up. The Germans could have rigged things up." The liberal/progressive icon insisted to his special emissary:

"I'm absolutely convinced that the Russians didn't do this." An amazed Earle responded: "Mr. President, I think this evidence is overwhelming." Of course, it was. (For an outstanding book and companion video series that includes this extraordinary exchange, see Laurence Rees' WWII Behind Closed Doors.) What happened at Katyn 70 years ago this spring was one of the most terrible human rights atrocities of the 20th century, which is saying something.

It deserves the same infamy as words like "Rape of Nanking" or "Buchenwald" or "Auschwitz." The people of Poland have never forgotten. Chief among them was Poland's pivotal president, who was on his way to pay remembrance when he, too, breathed his last in a violent death in the Russian territory of Smolensk. Let's pay tribute to his and Poland's loss by remembering Katyn, and teaching the world about this forgotten tragedy of history.

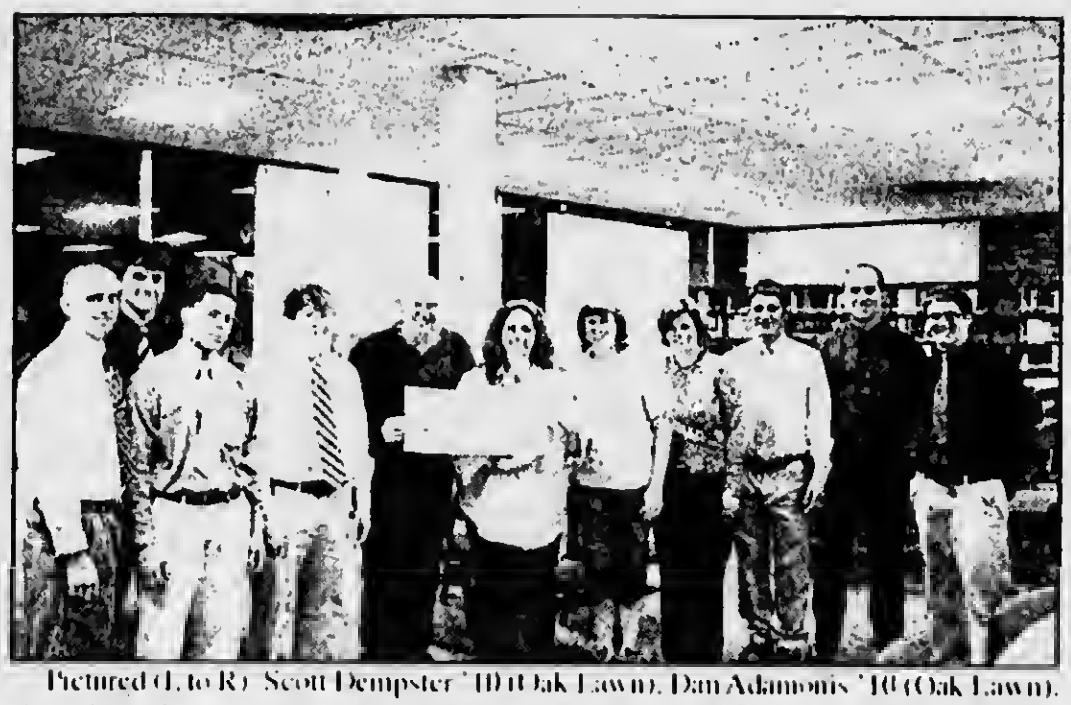
Dr. Paul Kengor is professor of political science and executive director of The Center for Vision & Values at Grove City College. His books include "The Judge: William P. Clark, Ronald Reagan's Top Hand," "God and Ronald Reagan" and "The Crusader: Ronald Reagan and the Fall of Communism."

www.VisAndVals.org

Evergreen Park Auxiliary meetings

The Evergreen Park American Legion Auxiliary will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, April 26, 2010. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Hall, Post 854, 9701 S. Kedzie Ave. Nominations for 2010-2011 Officers will be announced.

The American Legion Auxiliary is committed to helping veterans, their dependents. If you would like information about joining the Auxiliary, please contact Dian Kinahan at 708-229-2129.



Pictured (L to R): Scott Dempster '10 (Oak Lawn), Dan Adamonis '10 (Oak Lawn), Corey Flagg '10 (Chicago), Lucas Malone '10 (Evergreen park), Brother Bob McGovern, Mrs. Michelle England, Peggy Faust, Irish Moroz, Nick Chabarria '10 (Oak Lawn), and Kevin Kuzanek '05

Brother Rice Mothers Club makes donation to Edmund Rice Camp

On Wednesday, April 14, 2010, Irish Moroz and Peggy Faust on behalf of the Brother Rice High School Alumni Mothers' Club presented a donation of $2,500.00 to the Edmund Rice Camp. After an extremely successful vendor fair, the group decided to share a portion of the proceeds to help the camp.

Alumni camp leader Kevin Kuzanek '05, student leaders and graduating seniors Dan Adamonis, Nicholas Chabarria, Scott Dempster, Corey Flagg, Lucas Malone, and Brian Zignlich, and adult leaders Brother Bob McGovern and Michelle England gladly accepted their donation.

The money will help defray the cost of running the camp which provides a week long day camp experience for students from St. Margaret of Scotland who might otherwise not be able to attend a camp. Student leader Nick Chabrria explained to the Mothers' Club members that the boys start each day with hot lunch, then enjoy songs and musical games, play various sports, and cherish the chance to swim. Br. McGovern joined Mrs. England and the men to accept the donation and to say thank you to the alumni moms.

The volunteers who help run the camp donate time, talents, and treasures on a regular basis to prepare for the camp which will run from June 14 through June 18, 2010, celebrating its fifth year in action. The money donated by the Alumni Mothers' Club is greatly appreciated and will help over seventy young men enjoy a week of Edmund Rice Camp.

Under the direction of the Congregation of the Christian Brothers, Brother Rice High School has been educating young men since 1956. Brother Rice High School has been named a Top 50 Catholic High School in the United States by the Acton Institute five consecutive years. Since the honor roll's inception in 2001, Brother Rice is the only Catholic high school in Illinois to be named Top 50 in America all five years. Brother Rice continues to be the academic, spiritual, and athletic leader

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Woman with knee pain benefit from Doctor's tips and can received free knee x-ray

This month, MetroSouth Medical Center is offering free clinics about treatment options for women with knee pain. The seminars will feature board-certified orthopedic surgeons from Chicago's Southland, as part of the hospital's "Knee Pain Loves Women" campaign. The focus will be options available to those with osteoarthritis, including knee replacement surgery.

Attendees of the "Knee Pain Loves Women" seminars will receive a quad hamstring strengthening exercise card and a MetroSouth Medical Center resistance band for use at home or in the office. During each seminar, the hospital will raffle off 10 complimentary knee x-rays for those women who meet appropriate criteria.

The seminars will review the latest treatment options available for women with knee pain. The dates and locations are as follows:

Tuesday, April 27, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Lobby at MetroSouth Medical Center, 12935 S. Gregory St., Blue Island, IL – Dr. Carl DiLella, who is team physician for the Chicago Machine (Lacrosse).

Thursday, April 29, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Raday Lodge, Midlothian Park District, 3220 W. 145th St. (145th & Kedzie), Midlothian, IL – Dr. Bruce Dobsky.

To register for a free seminar, call MetroSouth Medical Center at 708-489-7927.

Osteoarthritis is the biggest cause of knee pain for both sexes. Nationwide, 60% of the 27 million Americans with osteoarthritis are women and approximately two-thirds of all knee replacements are performed on women. Experts point to weight loss and strengthening exercises for warding off osteoarthritis induced knee pain.

A new study by researchers at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics found that thigh muscle strength does predict incidence of painful or stiff knee OA. Women with the strongest quadriceps muscles appeared to be protected against the development of knee OA symptoms.

"Simple but consistent quadriceps conditioning can help a great deal," says physical therapist Kathy Weisle. "I've had patients who were prime candidates for knee pain completely fend it off by developing strong quad muscles." For registration to any of the knee pain seminars, please call 708-489-7927.

For more information on the "Knee Pain Loves Women" campaign, visit MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com.

Are you having a Craft or Vender's Show, or Special Event?
Linda 312-624-8996
email
www.wsbeglobal.net.

Stay sharp by exercising your brain

Even for the brightest among us, sometimes it is difficult to remember names. We've all found ourselves at the store, struggling to remember that last item we intended to purchase. And, as we age, these small memory lapses can become more frequent, and more frustrating. Some structural and chemical changes in the brain are a natural part of aging. Yet recent research offers promising information about the brain's plasticity.

"The brain is like a muscle, the more you work it, the stronger it will be," says Smith Village fitness specialist **Martina** Wessels who teaches Brain Fitness classes at Smith Village. Any exercise that forces you to think helps keep you mentally sharp." Wessels says that you are never too young to start exercising your brain. The sooner you start, the stronger you'll be. To that end, Wessels has some ideas and exercise that can build strong minds.

Create a Challenge

Try topics like history, trivia, state capitals or brainteasers. Having a class is a great way to stay mentally fit, but you could try these techniques at home to challenge yourself.

Flex Your Memory

If you are going to the store for a few items, instead of writing a shopping list, note how many things you need and memorize the list.

Try Something New

Learning the rules to a new game, exploring a new hobby and meeting new people all challenge parts of our brains that we may not use regularly.

Exercise

"Regular cardiovascular exercise, like walking, dancing or bicycling, is not only good for your heart and muscles, but also can sometimes help slow and reverse memory loss," says Wessels.

Mind Games

Games like crossword puzzles and Sudoku are good for the brain because they force you to remember facts, calculate and use logic. Word searches are helpful because they require focus over an extended period of time.

"As with physical fitness, everyone has different strengths," says Wessels. "You don't need to compare yourself to others, the important thing is to stay mentally active, challenge yourself, and take an active role in staying mentally sharp."

About Smith Village

Smith Village is one of the highly regarded Smith Senior Living communities in the southwestern region of metropolitan Chicago. The not-for-profit organization established its first community in 1924 on the site of Smith Village's new campus.

For more information about how Smith Village can help seniors thrive during their retirement, please call 773-474-7300 or visit www.SmithVillage.org.

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Rich Hoban, Music Director at Smith Village, performs your favorite tunes and takes requests.
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RSVP to 773-474-7300 or info@smithvillage.org
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City of Oak Forest celebrates National Public Safety Telecommunications Week

The Oak Forest City Council recognized the city's dispatchers at Tuesday night's City Council meeting by declaring April 11 through April 17 to be National Public Safety Telecommunications Week in Oak Forest. The week, sponsored by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International and celebrated annually, honors the thousands of men and women who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render life-saving assistance to the world's citizens.

"Each dispatcher exhibits compassion, understanding and professionalism while on the job," said Oak Forest Police Chief Greg Anderson. "They contribute substantially to the work of the police and fire departments – keeping our personnel safe, helping to capture criminals, suppressing fires, and treating patients. They are the first and most critical contact our residents have with emergency services.

To learn more about National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, visit www.apcotelecomweek.org.

About APCO International

The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International, Inc. is the world's oldest and largest professional organization dedicated to the enhancement of public safety communications. APCO serves the professional needs of its 16,000 members worldwide by creating a platform for setting professional standards, addressing professional issues and providing education, products and services for people who manage, operate, maintain and supply the communications systems used by police, fire and emergency medical dispatch agencies throughout the world. For more information, visit www.apcointl.org.

Lipinski Slams Treasury Secretary's delay in addressing China's currency

Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-3) announced his strong opposition to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner's decision to delay the release of a scheduled April 15 report in order to avoid naming China as a currency manipulator.

"This delay by Secretary Geithner is another nail in the coffin for tens of thousands of American jobs and hundreds of American businesses," Congressman Lipinski said. "Washington already has waited much too long for China to change its policy of manipulating its currency to destroy American jobs and businesses. We all know China is manipulating its currency to keep the price of its exports artificially low and the price of imports from the United States and elsewhere artificially high. It's time we stopped tip-toeing around the Chinese government and took concrete action to help American workers."

Over the weekend, Secretary Geithner issued a statement indicating that he would delay the April 15 Report to Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policies for an unspecified period of time. In the meantime, the administration plans to continue talking to China despite the fact that such discussions have proved fruitless in the past. Although China's currency may be undervalued by as much as 40 percent, Secretary Geithner only hinted at the depths of the problem in his statement.

"Talking with China about this issue has done nothing but allow it to continue to steal American jobs during a period of record-high unemployment," said Congressman Lipinski, who also joined 11 other members of the Populist Caucus in issuing a separate letter today opposing Geithner's decision. "What reason do we have to believe that more talk will do anything to change that in the near future? Every day that we wait to take action is another day Chinese manufacturers enjoy an unfair advantage and flood our country with goods that all too often are unsafe or shoddily made. Instead of waiting for China to do whatever it pleases, we need to level the playing field for American companies."

Congressman Lipinski was part of a bipartisan group of 130 members of the House of Representatives that sent a letter last month to Secretary Geithner and Commerce Secretary Gary Locke demanding action to combat China's currency manipulation. Among other things, the letter urges the Department of Commerce to apply the U.S. countervailing duty law in defense of American companies that have suffered as a result of manipulation.

"By pegging the renminbi to the U.S. dollar at a fixed exchange rate, China unfairly subsidizes its exports and disadvantages foreign imports," the letter states. "As we work to promote a robust U.S. economic recovery, it is imperative that we address this paramount trade issue with all available resources."

Summer Fun for Kids on the Horizon

Camps for kids and teens begin June 14

The Tinley Park-Park District is now accepting registrations for Summer Day Camp Two, four-week sessions will be offered for children age 3-12.

Campers age 7-12 will meet Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Centennial Park, 7800 W 167th Street, or Vogt Woods, 6527 W. 171st Street.

A half day camp from 12:15-2:45 pm is offered for children age 3-6 at the Tony Bettenhansen Recreation Center, 8125 W. 171st Street. Kids will have plenty to keep them busy including swimming, crafts, field trips, games, contests and much more. Sunrise and sunset camps are available at Centennial Park beginning at 7:30 am and running as late as 6:00 pm.

Teen camp also begins June 14 and is offered in four, two-week sessions. Camp takes place at the Rec Center from 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Monday-Friday. Designed for teens in grades 7-11, participants will have a great time playing games, swimming, going on field trips and making new friends.

Camp fees start at just $280 for a 4-week session, and $165 for the 2-week teen camp. Residents and non-residents of the Tinley Park-Park District are welcome.

For more information on camp fees and registration, please contact the Park District at (708) 342-4200 or stop by the Bettenhansen Rec Center.

Additional information is also available at www.tinleyparkdistrict.org.

A Reminder for Loretto Englewood High School graduating Class of 1960

Sunday, May 2, 2010
12:00 Noon until 5:00 P.M.

Loretto MotherHouse
1600 Somerset Ln
Wheaton, IL

$40.00 per person

If you have any questions please contact
Sharon Pfeiffer Binter
630-852-5831 or
Pat Godfrey Styx
815-458-3667

Support your Evergreen Park Ladies Auxiliary

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors to an event that will benefit veterans and active service men and women. The Ladies Auxiliary of the Evergreen Park American Legion

Post #854 will host a Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle on Friday, April 23, 2010 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the American Legion Hall located at 9701 S. Kedzie Ave. in Evergreen Park.

There will be good food, adult and children's raffle prizes, a bake sale, and loads of fun.

Tickets for adults are $7.00 at the door or $6.00 in advance at the Post Bar. Tickets are $3.00 for children under 12, and children under 5 are free.

Tinley Moraine Genealogist

There is a monthly meeting Thursday, May 6, 2010 with a program speaker. Caron Primas Brennan introducing "What's New on the Internet!"

The doors open at 6:15 pm and the business meeting starts at 6:45 pm with the program starting at 7:00 pm.

We are organized and on time. So if you are not a member, please come and try us out.

We are located in the Tinley Park Public Library at 7851 Timber Drive, 80th Avenue and 180th St., Tinley Park.

Whether you are new to genealogy or a veteran researcher, there is always something NEW ON THE INTERNET! Going beyond Ancestry.com and Cyndi's List, Caron Primas Brennan will present a survey of new and perhaps unusual genealogy resources and internet sites to help you in your research.

Join us for this interesting program. Guests are always welcome.

Photo: St. Rita of Cascia High School is proud to announce Brendan Conroy as its 16th Principal, effective July 1, 2010. (Left to right): St. Rita of Cascia High School Vice President Ernie Mrozek '71, new appointed 16th Principal Brendan Conroy, and President Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A '83.

St. Rita of Cascia High School Announces Brendan Conroy as 16th Principal

Fr. Thomas McCarthy, O.S.A. President of St. Rita of Cascia High School , is proud to announce Brendan Conroy as the 16th Principal of St. Rita of Cascia High School , effective July 1, 2010. Conroy is currently the Principal of Christ the King Jesuit College Preparatory School on Chicago 's West Side .

Prior to becoming the founding Principal of Christ the King, Conroy served as Assistam Principal, Teacher and Coach at St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago . Conroy holds a B.A. in English from the University of Notre Dame, an M.A. in English from the University of Mississippi , and an M.A. in Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Foundations from Chicago State University .

Conroy takes over as Principal from Sally Deenihan, who is retiring after 25 years at St. Rita, serving the last three as Principal. Deenihan was not only the first female Principal of St. Rita, but of any Augustinian high school in the United States During Deenihan's tenure as Principal St. Rita's academivs have excelled.

The average ACT score has surpassed the Illinois and National averages each year, merit-based college scholarship offerings have continued to rise, and nearly 20% of St. Rita seniors have been named Illinois StateScholars over the last three years.

"I am honored and very excited to accept this position for many reasons, including the strength, tradition and exceptional future prospects of St. Rita," said Conroy. "Under the leadership of Fr. Tom and Mrs. Deenihan, the school has earned a sterling reputation for excellence in academics, spirituality, and athletics. Most importantly there is an incredible family spirit and a dedication to the school's core values of Truth, Unity and Love." On the challenge of following a great Principal like Deenihan, Conroy added, "It will be a challenge to follow Mrs. Deenihan. She is so well respected at St. Rita and has accomplished so much. I just have to be myself as I learn the community, listen well and work with the team as we continue to improve a great school."

Conroy resides in the Beverly neighborhood of Chicago with his wife Terry and their five children. They are parishioners of St. Barnabas Catholic Church.

St. Rita of Cascia High School is an Augustinian Catholic college preparatory school located on the south side of Chicago, educating young men in a tradition of excellence since 1905.

Oak Lawn Library announces programs

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host an art exhibit of works created by students of Oak Lawn District 123 schools, including Covington, Hannum, Hometown, Kolmar, Sward and Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School. Members of the community are invited to stop by the Youth Services Department to view the hundreds of pieces on display through April 30. For additional information, call 708-422-4990.

# # #

Registration Continues for Friends of the Oak Lawn Library Trip:

Architectural River Cruise & Soldier Field Tour

Tickets are still available for a bus trip to downtown Chicago with the Friends of the Oak Lawn Library for a tour of Soldier Field and an architectural river cruise on Tuesday, May 18. Go behind the scenes at the home of the Chicago Bears, enjoy lunch at Bubba Gump's Shrimp Company at Navy Pier, and take a relaxing cruise on the Chicago River to learn about the iconic buildings that grace our city's skyline. The bus will depart from the library at 8 a.m. and return at 3 p.m. The cost of this all inclusive trip is $81 for Friends members and $86 for nonmembers. Registrants must present a current membership card or receipt to receive the $5 discount. Please be advised that this trip is not wheelchair accessible.

Call the Oak Lawn Library to purchase tickets, 708-422-4990.

# # #

Free Drop-in Storytime

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free drop-in storytime program for children ages three through eight from 11-11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 1. No advance registration is required. Parents are welcome to accompany their child to this program. Otherwise, they must stay within the library. For more information about this and other children's activities, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

# # #

Free Movie Sing-Along, "The Wizard of Oz"

. The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host an interactive "sing-along" showing of the 1939 classic family film "The Wizard of Oz" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 1. Moviegoers will be invited to sing along to the film's many songs by following lyrics shown on the screen. No advance registration is required. For more information, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

# # #

Garage Sales How-To Lecture

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free lecture on how to "Strike Garage Sale Gold" 7 p.m. Thursday, May 6.

Your trash can become somebody else's treasure! Cindy Sykora will explain how to prepare and conduct garage and yard sales that are profitable and fun to do. Discover tips and tactics to help you attract more buyers and increase your sales. Learn how to advertise, organize and merchandise your items to maximize on profits.

View a complete schedule of library programs at www.oaklawnlibrary.org. For additional information, call 708-422-4990.

# # #

Orland Parks own Antique Road Show

On Saturday, June 5, from 10am to 5pm, the Old Orland Antique Shops will sponsor their second Antique Appraisal Fair in the Old Bank Building at 14316 Beacon Avenue in the Historic District of Orland Park, IL. All proceeds will benefit the Orland Township Food Pantry. Since last years very successful fair, the shop owners have received countless inquiries about the date of the next one! The first Antique Appraisal Fair appraisers evaluated over 1400 items during the 7 hour event. Generous patrons donated bagfuls of non-perishable food that overloaded the shelves of the Orland Township Food Pantry.

Last Spring, Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin recommended a "road show" type event to Kay Shelander, Antique Appraiser, who generously volunteered the use of her building on Beacon Avenue. Jackie Bogie, of Beacon Hill Antique Shop, suggested making the event a Food Pantry fundraiser to give back to the community who has faithfully supported the Historic District Old Orland Antique Shops since 1969. Marianne Hill, Food Pantry Coordinator, stated that the pantry shelves are very low on food and staples, so they need all the help they can get during these tough economic times. Participating antique appraisers and event planners include Kay Shelander Antiques, Beacon Hill Antique Shop, Pam Benson Antiques and Fine Jewelry, Player Piano Clinic and Emporium, Anna Bs Antiques 'N Things, Union Avenue General Store Antique Shop, Cracker Barrel Antiques, On The Road Again Consignment Shop, Susies Trunk Show & Emporium, and Mary Lous Crystal and China Repair, who will be on site that day to do repairs while patrons wait.

Any one can bring in their treasures and one or more non-perishable food items per item, with a limit of 2 appraisals per person (no fine art and no stamps). Patrons will also receive a Special Discount Coupon for all Old Orland Antique Shop purchases. Tickets will again be sold for a Split the Pot Raffle with Gift Baskets donated by local merchants. Proceeds of the Raffle help the Food Pantry purchase needed, refrigerated perishables and other staples. Raffle Prize gift basket donations are currently being solicited for this event. Please contact the Event coordinator to make a raffle prize donation.

Plan ahead now to spend the day with your local merchants and help out your neighbor in need!

Information available with-Jackie Bogie, Event Coordinator, at #708-460-7988.

Tinley Junction opens for the season

Tinley Junction - The Tinley Park-Park District's miniature golf, batting cages, and concession facility - will open for the season on Thursday, April 29 at 4:00 pm. Season opening festivities on Saturday, May 1 include the Opening Cook Out from 12:00-3:00 pm, and Twilight Golf from 7:00-9:00 pm, when all golfers pay just $3.50 for a round of mini-golf.

Visit Tinley Junction for great family fun. The golf course features a unique garden model railroad running throughout the course, and the batting cages offer league ball and softball pitching. Tinley Junction is located at 16801 S. 80th Avenue in Tinley Park. Spring hours are from 4:00-9:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, 4:00-10:00 pm on Friday, 10:00 am-10:00 pm on Saturday, and 10:00 am-9:00 pm on Sunday. Beginning May 31, Tinley Junction will open daily at 10:00 am.

For more information - contact the Park District at 708/342-4200.

ABOUT THE TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT

The Tinley Park-Park District maintains over 420 acres of park lands and recreation facilities including the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center, White Water Canyon Water Park & Spray Ground, Tinley Fitness – a full-service fitness center, and 40 community park locations. The Tinley Park-Park District was established in 1967.

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NBC 5's Andy Avalos Headlines Orland Park's Spring Senior Coffee

NBC 5 Meteorologist Andy Avalos is the featured speaker for the Village of Orland Park 's Spring Senior Coffee on Thursday, May 13, 2010.

Area seniors are invited to enjoy coffee and refreshments at the Orland Park Civic Center , 14750 South Ravinia Avenue , from 10:00 a.m. until noon. There is no cost for admission and reservations are not required.

"We're excited to have Andy Avalos speak at our Spring Senior Coffee," said Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin. "The village is pleased to offer these bi-annual coffees so seniors can learn about the services in the area and what's available to them," the mayor said.

"Andy Avalos has quite a following in Orland Park and we expect that to show with this event," said Village Clerk Dave Maher. "This is a great time for him to be the featured speaker with our being in the midst of spring weather that can quickly become severe," he added.

Further information is available by calling the Village Clerk's Office of Special Services at 708-403-6188

Chicago Ridge Park District wants you to fly a kite

Join us Saturday, May 8 at 11:00 am at Freedom Park as we participate in "Flying 4 Kids, a statewide Kite Fly to create awareness of parks, recreation and Park District Youth License Plate.

Twenty-five dollars from the sale and subsequent renewals of each Park District Youth License Plate is placed in a fund to benefit park district beyond-school programming through Illinois.

Information and request forms will be available at the Kite Fly, or visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com.

THIS EVENT IS FREE TO THE PUBLIC! Don't forget to bring your kites

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Our skilled staff would like to help you with any of your dental requests. We have been serving the neighborhood dental needs for over 30 years with more than 125 years of combined dental knowledge. Also, with a lab on premise we can have your denture work completed in a timely manner. Our emphasis is on your comfort with a relaxing and friendly atmosphere.

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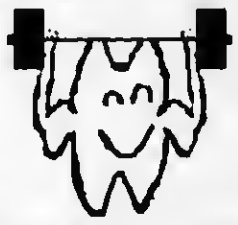

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Your Smile Says It All

Steve and Keith Bilski both agree that Kids need both parents. That is why Steve Bilski of Oak Lawn, IL, needed to be with the Share Partnership March in Chicago recently. He knows the statistic of fatherless children in this country and would like to do something about it

Free Cookbook

A 7 Day Meal Plan with Diabetes developed by Diabetes Daily, a leading online support network that helps people with diabetes live a better life, is now available to download for free at http://www.diabetesdaily.com/recipes/cookbooks.

The cookbook, authored by Diabetes Daily co-founder and resident culinary expert Elizabeth Edelman, provides 30 moderate carbohydrate recipes for flavorful meals made with natural ingredients that people with diabetes - and their families and friends - can enjoy without sacrificing taste. And while the recipes Elizabeth shares are filled with the complexity and flavor of a professional dish, they are all simple enough that even the least accomplished chef can create delicious meals.

"For someone diagnosed with diabetes, finding a new way to eat can be overwhelming," explains Elizabeth. "But eating right doesn't have to mean sacrificing carbs, variety, or satisfaction. And it certainly doesn't mean using less flavorful substitutes. **7 Day Meal Plan with Diabetes** shows you how to prepare simple, fool-proof recipes that are diabetes friendly, delicious, and healthy for everyone."

7 Day Meal Plan with Diabetes organizes recipes into daily meal plans, including suggestions for breakfast, lunch and dinner. It ensures variety and incorporates leftovers into delicious and economical new meals that can be prepared in minutes.

In addition to **7 Day Meal Plan with Diabetes**, Diabetes Daily has developed two tools to simplify the food selection process at the grocery story. FREE FOODS, a collection of foods that have little impact on blood sugars, and a 15 CARBS SNACK LIST. These tools are also available for free at www.diabetesdaily.com/recipes/coobooks.

About Diabetes Daily: Founded by David and Elizabeth Edelman, Diabetes Daily is a leading online support network that helps people affected by diabetes live a better life. The online support network features one of the largest diabetes forums, as well as original recipes, meal plans, cookbooks, blogs, educational resources, online blood glucose tracking, health challenges and diabetes related news. Diabetes Daily's mission is to connect people with diabetes, facilitate education and promote advocacy. Since its inception in 2005, the support network has grown to include more than 20,000 members. Consumers can join by visiting www.DiabetesDaily.com

McCord Gallery introduces programs for May and June

Children's Spring Tea, Ages 8-13

Sunday, May 2, 1pm - 3pm

$15 We invite your children to our House for a Springtime Tea to create all new projects with instructor Beth Leahy! Buzzing Bee Plant Poke, Painted Pots, and Beaded Bugs. (Remember Mother's Day gifts!) After working so hard, the children will sit down to "tea" and sample simple finger foods, while learning proper etiquette.

Housewalk, "Tip Toe Through the Tulips"

Saturday, May 22 $30

Take a stroll through beautiful houses in the Palos area and visit the McCord House too!

The Odd Couple (Female Version)

Wednesday, June 2 $30

Join us for an exclusive showing of this fabulous play by Neil Simon at The Theatre of Western Springs. This show is being presented as a benefit for McCord. How special is that?! Showtime is 8:00pm with a pre-show reception at 6:30. This will be a night to remember!

Garage Sale

Saturday, June 12, 9am - 5pm

It's a new year so let's get organized, clean out the clutter of the past and donate it to McCord for its garage sale. Ask someone at the reception desk to let you into the garage at McCord to deposit your treasures. It's a win, win situation. You get rid of your clutter and get a tax deduction and we can sustain more programs at McCord through the sale of your donated items. We are ready to receive goods from now until the end of May.

For further information call McCord Gallery at 708-671-0648, or stop in at 9502 West Creek Road, Palos Park, IL.

Interested in exhibiting your work at McCord Gallery in Palos Park

The Gallery Committee accepts proposals for group shows year round and selects exhibits based on work proposed and schedule availability.

If you would like to propose an exhibition, please send the following materials to McCord:

- Curatorial statement, brief bio, and curriculum vitae from the exhibition curator
- Artist statement, brief bio, curriculum vitae for each participating artist
- 15-20 images of proposed works with an artwork list including title, artist name, dimensions, media, and year created for each piece

Send all materials on a CD, (images must be in JPG format, statements, CV's, bios may be on CD as a PDF or included as a hard copy) to: McCord Gallery & Cultural Center

Attn: Gallery Committee 9602 W. Creek Road

Palos Park, IL 60464

Artwork Guidelines General Specifications:

All artwork must be for sale and available for the entire duration of the show.

All work must be the original work of the submitting artist. Work cannot have previously been displayed in McCord Gallery 2D.

Specifications: Fine art reproductions or giclee prints are not accepted.

All work must be properly framed using wire hangers. (Saw tooth hangers are not permitted.) 2D work should be no larger than 35"x 40" framed and weigh no more than 25 lbs. 3D

Specifications: We have a very limited number of pedestals. Exhibitions cannot be based solely on 3D work. 3D work should be no larger than H 5'x W16"x D16".

McCord is leaving the media specifications up to you. We are mainly concerned with space and weight.

beyond ordinary

The seat-belt

By J. R. Haymaker

I'm guessing the year was about 1959, and I was only about 4 or 5 years old. I remember getting into the back seat of my parents station-wagon and sitting next to my older sister. She was only a year older than me but was much taller, and seemed much wiser to me at that age. I sat in the car for a short while and thought about the seat belt lying next to me, we didn't normally wear the seat belts back then. I think I remembered someone had previously said that they were there to keep you safe in case of an accident. It didn't seem to me to be of much use if an accident happened suddenly like they are prone to occur, so I put my seat-belt on. I can't recall ever putting one on or being told to put one on before that. Since my father was a Chicago Police Officer, I guess we all just figured he was a safe driver and we didn't have to worry about that sort of thing. Of course, my mother drove also but we trusted her also. I put on the seat belt because maybe the accident could be caused by another careless driver or some unforeseen problem

Now, my older sister, Sue, being very vigilant noticed that I had put on my seat belt and inquired of me, why I was wearing it. In response I asked her what they were for" She immediately got upset with me, and said "They are for when you get in an accident, in a sharp tone of voice. I then asked her when that was and she replied exacerbated "I don't know! I then said that's right, "You don't know" so if you are not wearing them all of the time, you won't have it on when you need it! In fact, one day it will be a law that everyone has to wear their seatbelt

Now, I was at such a young age and didn't know anything about laws and how they are made or who made them. There was an earlier period of time when cars didn't have seat belts, let alone rules that you had to wear them I think the only reason I had those thoughts come to my mind is because of all the premonitions I have had since then. I was right about them making laws requiring seat belt use, 30 years before they did!

Today, this is the longest future premonition I ever had in my entire life. I do know of another one that will take a long time before it happens, but probably not that long. Last year I met my niece (Julia) for the first time in (2009), she was four years old then. I had a premonition about her when I arrived at my sister Sue's house to meet her and my twin brother, Gary. The premonition about Julia was short and distinct for she was going to be a famous actress. The time when was not revealed but I immediately assumed it would be when she grew up I have found that the most common assumption in cases like this is usually the correct one. I noticed she had a French accent and spoke French with her mother, Nadine. I asked her in French "Parlay vu France" She said "oui mademoiselle". I immediately roared with laughter! I'm a man not a woman! I said to her with a smile. My sister Diane heard this and laughed while she corrected her saying "oni masseur"

I told my brother Gary and his wife Nadine about my premonition. He immediately thought I meant child actor. I had to correct him on this and said, No, she will grow up and choose acting as her profession on her own and become famous for it. Maybe she will change her name from Julia Haymaker to something else, but that is the way it will turn out.

I don't know if she will be famous for stage acting or movies or TV shows, but acting will be her profession and she will be famous as she will excel in it. After how long, I can't say; maybe I'll know more later but probably not since it is not that important when, but that she will succeed in it. Maybe her French accent will help!

Mother McAuley Celebration 2010

Bishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller

The Board of Trustees of Mother McAuley Liberal Arts High School will host the annual Celebration Endowment Fundraiser on Saturday, May 8, 2010. Bishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, M.Sp.S, will be honored with the Catherine McAuley Leadership Award and Laura Shallow '75 with the Distinguished Alumna Award.

As a recipient of the Catherine McAuley Leadership Award, the school pays tribute to Bishop Garcia-Siller and his support of the mission of the school in providing a quality Catholic liberal arts education for young women.

For more than three decades, Laura Shallow has supported Mother McAuley High School's mission, therefore receiving the Distinguished Alumna Award.

Celebration annually benefits the Mother McAuley Endowment for Student Tuition Assistance For more information, call 773-881-6559.

Chicago Ridge Pubic Library announces Chef Jana

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, invites you to join us on Wednesday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. for Chef Jana Mazan Presents: Summer Sides.

Jazz up your Family Parities with creative side dishes that can withstand even the rowdiest family gatherings. Local Chef and Chicago Ridge resident Jana Mazan will teach us how to toss together delicious side dishes that can be transformed into a main dish for a quick week night meal.

The following recipes will be presented; Lemon Pasta Salad with Cherry Tomatoes and Feta, Crunchy Cucumber Rounds, and Cool Raspberry Soup. Register and prepay the $5 tasting fee by May 1st.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, invites you to join us on Tuesday, April 20th at 7:00 p.m. for an Eggstreme Craft Sew a cute baby chick that will brighten up your Spring! Materials are provided and all ages are welcomed Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Moraine Valley Community College Fine & Performing Arts Center

Calendar of Events

April 24

Tamburitzans of Duquesne University 7:30 p.m.

Dorothy Menker Theater Tickets General Public $20, Seniors $15, Students $10

America's longest running multicultural song and dance company, the Tamburitzans of Duquesne University is a unique ensemble of talented young folk artists dedicated to the music, songs and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures.

April 26-May 21

Juried Student Art Exhibition Robert F. DeCaprio Art Gallery Mon Fri 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and during most performances

Reception Thursday, April 29, 4-6:30 p.m. The Juried Student Art Exhibit is an exhibition showcasing the breadth and depth of emerging art students who are either currently enrolled in or have taken art classes within the past year at Moraine Valley.

April 29-May 2 and May7-8

Machinal by Sophie Treadwell. All shows are at 7:30 p.m., except for Sunday, May 2, at 3 p.m. John and Angeline Oremus Theater Tickets: General public $12, Seniors/Students $10 Directed by Dr. Craig Rosen A 1928 Broadway hit, Machinal is a modern age tragedy of isolation turned to murder. The play, Sophie Treadwell said, is about "a young woman, ready, eager for life, for love, but deadened, squeezed, crushed by the machine like quality of the life surrounding." Loosely based on the sensational 1927 murder trial of Ruth Snyder, Treadwell uses this scenario as a springboard for her own speculations about what circumstances might drive a seemingly harmless stenographer to commit murder.

May 6

Moraine Valley Concert Band presents "By Request an Evening of Audience Favorites!" 7:30 p.m. Tickets: General Public $12, Seniors/Students $10 Dorothy Menker Theater. Join us for an evening of music chosen by the audience. Selections include great movie themes, toe-tapping marches, a medley of Gershwin greats and much more. Directed by Douglass Bratt and hosted by WBBM radio personality Joe Collins.

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Endgame a Samuel Beckett play accomplished at Steppenwolf

by Alan Bresloff

The very first word in the play is "Finished, which causes us to ponder if this is indeed a play within a play that is over and now allowing us to see what takes place after. Or, are we the audience to the lives of these four characters , although, the mother and father are very small roles, but important to the overall picture that Beckett has written and Galati has brought to life. If you are "into" Beckett, you will get more out of this production than the average theater patron You will understand that he is taking us through the day with this family and how both Hamm and Clov work the board to move closer to their reward. Can we make sense of our lives and what takes place? How much control do we really have in our fate and destiny? The very clever and profound Beckett takes us on a journey that may cause you to reexamine your own life. One of the best lines in this play is stated by Nell (who has very few, but understand that Ms Lavey can make one line a lasting and meaningful memory). The line is "nothing is funnier than unhappiness" and after close examination, this may have been Beckett's point.

Unlike most of the Steppenwolf productions, there is no glorious set or costumes , but James Schuette's work fits with the theme of the play and James Ingalls' lights and the sound by Andre Pluess are the final touches to a marvelous theatrical experience. If you are not a fan of the works of Beckett, you might take a pass on this one, but if you have never seen one of his plays, you might be in for a great surprise.

"Endgame" will continue at The Steppenwolf Downstairs Theatre located at 1650 N. Halsted through June 6th with performances as follows: Tuesday Sunday at7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Wednesday matinees at 2 p.m. on May 12th, 19th and 26th and June 2nd ONLY) No performance on Saturday, May 8th Tickets range in price from $20-$77 and can be purchased at the box office, by phone at 312-335-1650 or online at www.steppenwolf.org

Christian involvement during the Holocaust

by Alan Bresloff

Provision Theater Company, a small company that has found a new home on the campus of the University of Illinois Chicago, is dedicated to producing "works of hope, reconciliation and redemption". "Works that challenge us to explore a life of meaning and purpose". Their latest production, "The Hiding Place" accomplishes their goals to perfection. It is directed by Tim Gregory, and adapted from the book by Corrie ten Boom, with John and Elizabeth Sherrill by. This is the story of a Dutch family whose family took in Jews and made their home "The Hiding Place". They were also taken to concentration camps and endured some of what the Jews and Polish people experienced. As we see what happens to this family, we also learn more about Corrie and her sister and their constant faith that they can forgive those who made them suffer.

In the close to two hours and forty five minutes to follow, one can not help falling in love with this woman played to perfection by Lia D. Mortensen. The play is a bit long but I can understand that Mr. Gregory really didn't want to leave out all the details that made this woman and her sister who they became. The sister is played by Cynthia Judge, another fine actress. Their father is played by veteran Dennis Kelly who conveyed all the warmth and charm of the man who would have raised these two free spirits - all very Christian people with very open hearts. In fact, Gregory has put together a strong ensemble made up of all types of actors who take on many roles, each character being an important cog in the wheel that makes this story come alive

The cast is made up of the following Suzy Brack, Danon Dastugne (who is remarkable as Hilda), Jane deLaubenfels, Amanda Grace, Dane Halvorson, Matt Holzfeind, Charlie S. Jensen, Cameron Johnson, Katherine Jordan, Maura Kidwell, Fanette Liebow, Andy Luther,Joshua Hunter Magers, Ryan Martin, Amy Malouf Jack McCabe,Jack Mulopoulos, Steve Peebles,David Prentiss, Luke Reim, Mike Rogalski, Keta Roth Joanie Rueschhoff, Mimi Sagadin, Brett Schneider Steve Scholz and Don Tieri As you can see it takes an "army" to make a production like this take on a life of its own and this army under Gregory's smooth direction works!

This is a true story, one that offers us, the theater audience to learn how ordinary people became extraordinary people during a time in history that we cannot ever forget While this is a "Christian" look at this era, it is still a powerful look at how one can use their faith to propel them forward, even during times of pain and suffering In this story, our heroine becomes a stronger person and even more religious despite what is taking place and even more, finds that her inner strength can carry her through what has been placed before her and becomes convinced that the Germans will be defeated and her new mission in life is to help those who suffered, even more than her, to find a reason to go on with their own lives A beautiful message and one that can be related to by all faiths.

"The Hiding Place" will run through May 23rd at The Provision Theater located at 1001 West Roosevelt Road with lots of free parking. The performance schedule is: Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Sundays at 3 p.m.

Tickets range from $25-$28, which is a true bargain when it comes to live theater and can be purchased by calling 866-811-4111 or online at www.provisiontheater.org

EP student to attend training in New York

Evergreen Park High School is proud to announce that junior Matt Mitchell has been accepted into the Pre-College Musical Theater Training Program at New York University in New York, New York.

Matt will attend from June 27 to July 31, 2010, and will take classes in Acting-Scene Study, Acting Improvisation, Vocal Technique, Vocal Performance, Music Theory, and a full dance program Matt has appeared on stage in several productions including Barnum, Seussical the Musical, Arsenic and Old Lace, Hello Dolly, Charlie's Aunt, Singin' in the Rain, Clue the Musical and The Will Rogers Follies He is directed and coached by Ken and Amy Kazin and Melanie Michalak, Fine Arts teachers at Evergreen Park Community High School

Guiseppe Bausilio and Samuel Pergande

Billy Elliot takes over Chicago

Billy Elliot against all odds makes his dream come true. There are four boys rotating the starring role of Billy, and they all are outstanding in their performance. The music is featured by Elton John, the book and lyrics by Lee Hall, the Darling, Peter has choreographed this production and Stephen Daldry directed it. Billy Elliot opened on Broadway, November, 2008 and Chicago, April 11, 2010 and has already announced tickets will be sold until October 24, 2010 Rush tickets go on sale at 10 am the day of each performance for $25 and 11 am on Sunday.

Annette's reviews for performances for the week of April 11 through April 17.

Billy Elliot at the Ford (Oriental) gets four stars.
Hephaestus: A Greek Mythology Circus Tale at the Goodman, four stars.
The Taming of the Shrew at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre three stars.
Into the Woods at Porchlight Music Theatre three stars.
Killer Joe at Royal George two stars.
Future Performances -An Evening with Frederica von Stade and Jake Heggie Only May 10, Chicago Opera Theater presents the final production of their 2010 Spring Festival Season – Jake Heggie's Three Decembers on May 8, 12, 14, and 16 at the Harris Theater in Millennium Park.

April 22 – May 23, 2010

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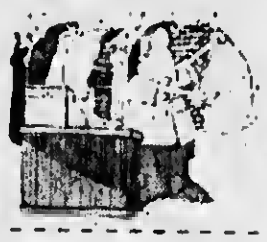

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Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce Going Green & Clean Chamber to Host

In an effort to encourage local business owners and managers to go green and get clean, the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will sponsor its first-ever Clean Up Week from May 1st through 8th. With Spring in full swing, the Chamber encourages all members to take this opportunity to spruce up the inside and outside areas of their business.

The Chamber has enlisted the support of businesses in the cleaning, landscaping and outdoor decor arena to offer special discounts and offers to fellow Chamber members during the initiative. Additionally, the Chamber will distribute window decals that businesses and residents can display to show they are part of the "Oak Lawn Clean Team."

For more information contact the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300 or through email at office@oaklawnchamber.com.

Founded in 1946, today the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce consists of more than 300 members. The Chamber of Commerce works to represent and advance the Oak Lawn business community striving with constant integrity, fairness and cooperation to promote and improve the economic atmosphere, business climate and image of Oak Lawn.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 8 | April 20, 2010

Tinley Park annexes Lincoln-Way parcel

By
Matt Mayer

The village board at a recent Tinley Park Board of trustees meeting approved the annexation of a parcel of property at the southwest west corner of 191st Street and Harlem Avenue. Lincoln-Way Community School District 210 owns the property. The property is a 16 acre parcel which will be annexed into the village - the property is currently located in an unincorporated portion of Will County and not within the corporate limits of any municipality, but is neighboring the village: Upon annexation, the property will be default zoned to a R-1 (single family residential) zoning district. A public hearing is not required dne to the property being acquired through default zoning.

Other highlights: The village board approved changing street address for the Tinley Park Convention Center and Holiday Inn dne to the slated expansion projects for Convention Center. Officials are optimistic there will be a future outlot development within the site. Therefore there will be a change in the number assignments within the development to reference Convention Center Drive rather than Harlem Avenue in order to reduce confusion pertaining to emergency response and online mapping services.

The address for the Convention Center will be changed from 18451 S. Harlem Avenue to 18451 Convention Center Drive, and the Holiday Inn address will be changed from 18501 S. Harlem Avenue to 18501 Convention Center Drive. Any future outlots will be assigned addresses based off of Convention Center Drive. Pursuant to a state statute, an ordinance is required when a municipality changes the name of any street, avenue, alley, or other public place so the authorities have jurisdiction in the area where the name change occurs and can be notified.

Village of Orland Park to Host Memorial Day Ceremony

The Village of Orland Park 's Memorial Day Ceremonies are poignant tributes to those who have died serving our country. Flags from each of the 50 states billow as they provide a colorful frame for the village's towering memorial, Ara Pace – Place of Peace. Bagpipes wail as veterans file in for the presentation of colors as audience members silently rise to their feet.

This year's ceremony will be the first in almost twenty years without retired US Air Force Colonel Father Leo Lyons who passed away at the age of 87 on February 18, 2010.

"Father Leo never missed one of our ceremonies," said Mayor Dan McLaughlin. "He was a true veteran's veteran and made sure he participated every Memorial Day and Veterans Day," the mayor recalled.

Veterans march past the state flags that frame Orland Park 's Veterans' Memorial. The cost to add a vet's name to Orland Park 's wall is $250 and the deadline for this year's Memorial Day Ceremony is April 30. For details, call 708-403-6203.

Orland Park's observance of Memorial Day 2010 will span four days with the Agent Orange Quilt of Tears on display in the Jane Barnes Annex of the Orland Park Civic Center from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., May 28 through May 31. Vietnam War era memorabilia will be on display for the four days with guest speakers and presentations planned for each of the days the quilt is in Orland Park .

"The Agent Orange Quilt of Tears was here in October, 2005 when we hosted the Vietnam Moving Wall," said Veterans Commission Chair Tom Dubelbeis. "It's a thought provoking display that takes your breath away as you see individual quilt sections devoted to those who suffer from or have died because of the effects of Agent Orange," Dubelbeis said, himself a Vietnam Veteran.

"Agent Orange has had a devastating effect on our Vietnam Veterans and, to date, is responsible for more deaths than the combat casualties suffered during the Vietnam Conflict," Dubelbeis stressed.

Orland Park's Memorial Day Ceremony will be held Monday, May 31 at 1:00 p.m. at the village's memorial, located in the Village Center at 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. Members of Orland Park Cub Scout Pack 383 will again serve as an honor guard for the procession of veterans.

Veterans Commission Recording Secretary Gail Blummer coordinates the village's military tributes. "There's still time to add veterans' names to Orland Park's memorial," Blummer said, adding that the last day to add a name for the Memorial Day Ceremony is April 30, 2010.

The cost to add a veteran's name is $250. Veterans may be living or deceased and do not have to live in Orland Park. Further information about adding a name is available by calling Blummer at 708-403-6203.

"It's especially touching when a veteran stands as his name is announced as his friends and family smile and applaud," the mayor said.

Immediately following Orland Park 's 1:00 p.m. ceremony, John Rowan, National President of the Vietnam Veterans Association will speak of the need for additional veterans' services and funding.

"We're honored to have Mr. Rowan travel to Orland Park from Maryland to address the needs of our region's veterans," McLaughlin said.

Dubelbeis added, "We invite everyone to come to the Civic Center to see the displays and to be a part of Orland Park 's Memorial Day tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice."

"And, even though Father Leo will no longer be here, we know that he'll be with us in spirit," Blummer said, smiling, as she added, "He wouldn't miss this for the world."

Oak Forest e-Briefs

Police Department recognizes officers for exemplary service

Police Chief Greg Anderson recently recognized Officer Todd Arthur and Officer Thomas Lynch for commendable work while proactively patrolling the streets of Oak Forest and protecting its residents.

Volunteer for Clean Up Day

Volunteer to be a part of Clean Up Day Saturdaym on Saturday, April 24 by calling the Public Works Department at 708-535-4090.

This is a great opportunity for residents, scout troops, and school or church groups to get involved in the community or fulfill service hours. Volunteers should meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Public Works garage (15722 S. Lorel Ave) to get their assigned areas for clean up. Lunch will be provided for all volunteers. Clean Up Week – April 26 to April 30.

Want to participate in the citywide garage sale?

Register by April 26

The 2nd Annual Citywide Garage Sale is Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. To join in on the fun, please complete the registration form and return to Alderman Laura Clemons at City Hall (15440 S. Central Avenue) or lclemons@oak-forest.org by Monday, April 26.

Applications are now being taken for the 2010 CEDA Scholarship Awards - Scholarships are available to income-eligible residents of suburban Cook County who are already enrolled or planning to attend an accredited institution of high education or occupational training in Illinois for the academic year 2010-2011.

25th Annual Business Expo and Conference

The Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce will host the 25th Annual Business Expo and Conference at the Tinley Park Convention Center on Thursday, April 22 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. register today!

Question of the Week

When does yard waste pick up begin?

Yard waste pick up is on your regularly scheduled garbage day. Please make sure you have a red yard waste sticker – available for free at City Hall – affixed to your yard waste container.

To submit a question for consideration, please send an e-mail to emaher@oak-forest.org and type Question of the Week in the subject line.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 8 | April 20, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Worth considers spring carnival

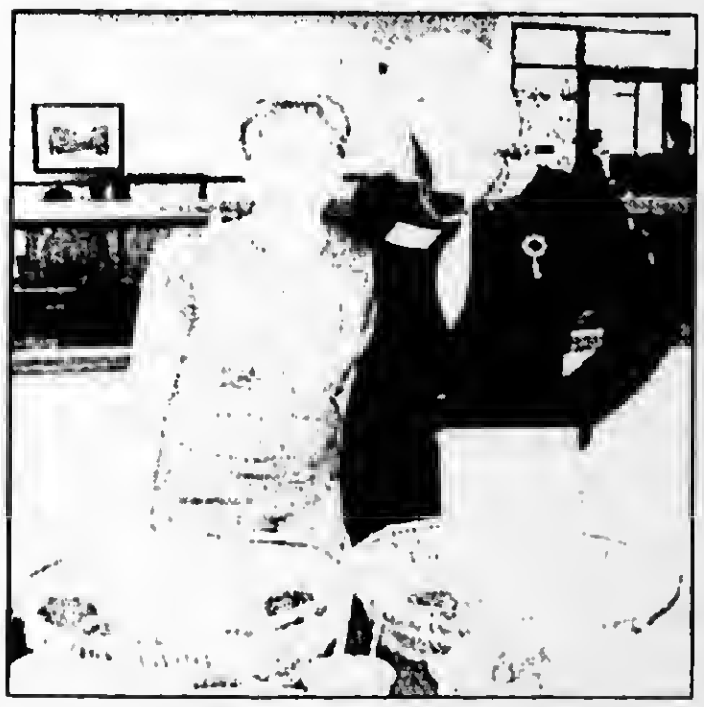
By
Matt Mayer

Officials announced at the Worth Board of Trustees meeting that they had received a request from Spectacular Midway (SM) in regards to the village holding a spring carnival. The dates proposed by SM are Thursday April 29 through Sunday May 2. The location has not yet been determined. There are two locations being considered for the event - the property near businesses at 7030 W. 111th Street and the parking lot located near the municipal boat launch at 115th Street and Beloit.

This is the same company that operates Worth Days. Officials were concerned regarding costs related to the event such as security, traffic control and parking. Village Clerk Bonnie Price said that the village would receive 75-percent for each game on the midway and a total of 25-percent of the earnings from the event. Price is hopeful that the 25-percent, which would come back to the village, could possibly be used for Worth Says the board then agreed to have Price enter into further discussions with SM and report back to the board.

The village board approved the Waters Edge Golf Course budget for 2010-2011 as well as the Village of Worth American Disabilities Act.

OPACC hosts orientation



Marty Linderborg owner of Great Harvest Bread in Palos Heights poses with Sue Withers of Standard Bank & Trust during the recent Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce Member Orientation hosted by Standard Bank & Trust of Palos Heights . Refreshments for the orientation were provided by Great Harvest. The orientation is held once a month and gives new, prospective and existing members an opportunity to learn more about chamber benefits. The next Member Orientation will be held on May 18 at Brighton Gardens from 7:45 am to 9:00 am. To RSVP for the May 18 orientation or for more information on becoming a member of the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce call (708) 349-2972 or visit their website at www.orlandparkchamber.org

Palos Park celebrates 17th Arbor Day

On Sunday, May 2, 2010, the Village of Palos Park and Palos Park Garden Guild 1, will celebrate the 17th annual Arbor Day observance. At 1:00p.m. Mayor John Mahoney will officially begin the celebration with the Arbor Day Proclamation

Storyteller Mary Kroening is the guest presenter. Her theme is "The Gift of Trees." The day continues with the annual Arbor Day ceremonial tree planting on the Village Green. This year's tree will be a Sassafras tree.

All in attendance will receive Dawn Redwood, Ozark Witch Hazel and a Spice Bush Seedling. All Palos Park residents are encouraged to attend this annual event

The Chicago Ridge Public Library to host craft sessions

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, invites you to join us on Tuesday, April 20th at 7:00 p.m. for an Eggstreme Craft. Sew a cute baby chick that will brighten up your Spring! Materials are provided and all ages are welcomed. Children must be accompanied by an adult

The library also invites you to join us on Wednesday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. for Chef Jana Mazan Presents: Summer Sides.

Jazz up your Family Parties with creative side dishes that can withstand even the rowdiest family gatherings. Local Chef and Chicago Ridge resident Jana Mazan will teach us how to toss together delicious side dishes that can be transformed into a main dish for a quick week night meal. The following recipes will be presented. Lemon Pasta Salad with Cherry Tomatoes and Feta, Crunchy Cucumber Rounds, and Cool Raspberry Soup. Register and prepay the $5 tasting fee by May 1st. Contact Pamela Lessner at 708-423-7753 for futher details

President Obama Launches Conservation Initiative

President Barack Obama signed a Presidential Memorandum today establishing the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to promote and support innovative community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces and to reconnect Americans to the outdoors. The President spoke before leaders representing the conservation, farming, ranching, sporting, recreation, forestry, private industry, local parks and academia communities from all 53 states and territories.

The Presidential Memorandum calls on the Secretaries of the Interior and of Agriculture, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to lead the Initiative, in coordination with the Departments of Defense, Commerce, Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, Labor, Transportation, Education, and the Office of Management and Budget. The Initiative will support a 21st century conservation agenda that builds on successes in communities across the country, and will start a national dialogue about conservation that supports the efforts of private citizens and local communities

"Today, with 80 percent of Americans living in cities and suburbs, it is more important than ever for people to have access to outdoor space. Just as we cherish our childhood memories of hiking and sledding, fishing and camping, and just as we enjoy spending time outdoors with our families, we must guard these places and traditions for new generations," said CEQ Chair Nancy Sutley. "Through this Initiative we hope to identify new opportunities to work with Americans on a modern approach to conservation that begins at the ground level, and to reinvigorate the national conversation about our outdoors.

"Since President Theodore Roosevelt held the first White House conference on conservation in 1908, we as Americans have taken extraordinary steps to protect our land, water, wildlife, and history for future generations, but today the places we love face new challenges that require new ideas and new strategies to solve," said Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar. "President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative will start a much-needed dialogue about conservation in our country so that we can hear directly from Americans about the places they care about and how they are working to protect them. This is about listening, learning, and finding common-sense ways to support the good work that is happening in communities across the country."

"President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative will play an important role in confronting the serious challenges our natural resources face today: climate change, air and water pollution, landscape fragmentation and loss of open space," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "This effort will bring Americans from across the country together to look for new approaches to protect our national treasures. And it will highlight the importance of working across ownership boundaries to restore and conserve both private and public lands in a way that recognizes that conservation and economic vitality are inextricably linked."

"Too many of our cities have limited access to parks for children, low-income residents and communities of color. Improving access to open areas and green space in our urban communities should be a focus of a 21st century conservation strategy," said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. "It makes me proud that generations to come will know that we took action to preserve, restore and protect vital natural treasures."

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 8 | April 20, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip approves Deputy Fire Chief's retirement

By
Matt Mayer

At the April 5th Alsip Board of Trustees meeting a letter of request from Fire Department Deputy Chief Denis Kelly to retire was approved as well as a request for his final buyout of sick time, which will be paid in accordance with village policy. The total sum is $46,394.31. A request for the Fire and Police Commission to promote the next eligible candidate on the lieutenants list to fill the open position created by Kelly's retirement was also approved.

Other highlights: the village board approved a request from Clifton Gunderson to conduct a fiscal year 2010 audit. A request from the Park District to permit a refund of $450.00 for construction at Sears Park was approved as well as a waiver for future permit fees required for the Park District project at Sears Park at 123rd and Trumbull.

A request to advertise for bids for the purchase of new furnaces and air conditioners for the Heritage II clubhouse and maintance shop was approved. The bonds issued last year for the Heritage Complexes will fund this project. The renewal of the village health insurance with the current health provider, effective May 1, 2010 - April 30 2011, which includes a one -percent increase, was also approved.

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Alsip Public Library announces upcoming schedule

That Sweepstakin' Gal! Thursday, April 22, at 7:00 PM. In twenty years of sweepstaking, Cindy Sykora has won over and over. She and her family have won trips, merchandise, a new car, a landscaping makeover and $10,000 in gas cards. She will come to share her tips and strategies for winning and also tell you how you can safeguard against scams. Registration required.

Chansonettes - Thursday, May 6, at 1:30 PM at the Heritage 2 Apts, Clubhouse. Let the Chansonettes entertain you. Their repertoires of show tunes, pop standards and seasonal music have delighted audiences for over 50 years. Directed by Ruth Smith, women from several south suburban communities join together in 3 part harmony to share friendship, fun and the pleasure of entertaining others. It will also include a short sing-along. Registration required.

Super-Couponing With The Coupon Queen, Thursday, May 13, at 7:00 PM. Jill Cataldo will share a fun and easy way to save on groceries, by getting items for free or just for pennies! Learn couponing secrets of the pros, which stores will let you stack multiple coupons, how to track sales and discounts online, and best of all - how to get the store to pay YOU to shop. This program will certainly change the way You shop forever! Registration required.

Computer Classes - We will be offering 4 different computer classes. John Hojek, will be your instructor. Microsoft Excel, Friday, April 16 10 A.M - 2 P.M. Microsoft Excel Part 2, Friday, April 30 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. Microsoft Power Point, Friday, May 07 10 A.M.- 2 P.M. PC TLC, Friday, May 14 10 A.M. - 12:30 P.M

New registration procedure: The first 15 people to come and sign in at the Reference Desk the day of the class & pay a $10 nonrefundable registration fee can attend the class. Doors open at 9:45 A.M. If you have questions please call the Reference Desk at 708-371-5666 exts. 108 or 109.

Director of Engineering retires

Joseph Sobanski, Director of Engineering for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, recently, retired and was given a Resolution by the District congratulating him on his 35 years of service.

After Sobanski graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 1973 he worked in public service. Soon after he joined the MWRD as an assistant civil engineer in the then relatively new Tunnel and Reservoir Plan (TARP) Section. Prior to his present position he justly earned ever increasing responsibilities,including serving as project manager for engineering design of TARP Phase I tunnel systems, and other related design contracts. Sobanski has always been dedicated to safeguarding public health and welfare and protecting the water environment. He is active in many engineering organizations.

Pictured from the left is Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos; Joseph Sobanski; Commissioner Shore; President Terrence O'Brien.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 36 | Number 21 | May 4, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Oak Lawn approves property maintance ordinance

By
Matt Mayer

The village board at the April 27 Oak lawn Board of Trustees meeting approved an ordinance to amend a title, chapter and articles of the village municipal code regarding property maintance regulations as well as an ordinance authorizing the installation of certain traffic regulations, Do Not Enter and One Way traffic signs, near St Linus School. A request to waive the formal bidding process and lease 6 Ford Crown Victoria police interceptors for $135,218, which is within $600 of the state contract price, and to award the contract to Hawk Ford was also approved. .

The board approved a resolution to accept Edwin Hancock Engineering's proposal for alley paving and drainage work." A request for the 2010 sidewalk and curb replacement program and a resolution to approve an agreement with Globe Construction, Inc was also approved.

A resolution for traffic control measures which include closing a portion of 95th Street during the observance of Independence Day was approved as well as a resolution to accept the preliminary engineering services for federal participation for resurfacings and patching of 103rd Street from Central to Austin Avenues.

Oak Lawn Secures $40 Mill Low-Interest Loans

The Village of Oak Lawn announced Monday that as a result of efforts by House Speaker Michael Madigan and other local lawmakers the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has agreed to approve $40 million in low-interest loans for the village to upgrade its water distribution system, which provides Lake Michigan water to 12 municipalities in the Southland.

"While we are fortunate to live in a part of the country that is abundantly blessed with freshwater supplies, they are of little use if we do not have a modern and robust means of delivering them to homes and businesses," Madigan said. "I am pleased that the Illinois EPA and Director Scott have recognized the crucial need to invest in the infrastructure necessary to provide safe, reliable drinking water to south suburban communities." Many aging pipes, mains, pumps, and valves are near the end of their useful life and need replacement or refurbishment. Without significant upgrades, the present system will not be able to support the expected growth of the region from the current 325,000 to nearly half million people by 2030. Village officials plan to begin work next year.

"We recognize the importance of Oak Lawn's master plan to address safety, reliability, efficiency, and demand issues affecting their 50 year-old water distribution system," IEPA Director Doug Scott said. "Village officials have done a great job of making a case for why this project is deserving of state support."

The modernization project is expected to cost up to $193 million and take five years to complete. The low-interest loans provided by IEPA use federal monies that are distributed to states to encourage local infrastructure investment and have an interest rate of 1.25%. Oak Lawn village officials plan to solicit additional funds and grants for the balance of the project and make use of "Build America Bonds" approved by Congress in 2009.

"The loan agreement is an important first-step," Oak Lawn Village Manager Larry Deetjen, who has been working on the project for almost three years, said. "It's also a great example of what is possible when elected officials work together and speak with one voice at the Capitol."

"This is not only a great day for Oak Lawn residents, but also for all Southland residents." Oak Lawn Trustee and Public Works Chairman Robert Streit, who has been pushing for the water system upgrade for several years, said. "We are gratified by the leadership and commitment to Oak Lawn and surrounding municipalities demonstrated by Speaker Madigan and Director Scott."

Oak Lawn State Senator Ed Maloney (D-Chicago) and State Representatives Kevin Joyce (D-Chicago) and Michael Carberry (D-Oak Lawn) were also involved in the effort to secure the loan commitments and are enthusiastic about the economic benefits that will flow to the region.

"A project of this magnitude will create hundreds of good jobs - directly and indirectly - and help to get skilled tradesman, engineers and construction workers out of the unemployment line and back to work, laying the foundation for future economic growth in our area," Carberry said.

On Friday, April 23, 8th grade students from St. Germaine Grade School participated in the "Our Children, Our Government" program at Oak Lawn Village Hall. Pictured standing from left to right are Clerk Jane Quinlan, Molly Mayo, Michael Walt, Mayor Dave Heilmann, Molly Partyka, David Nelson & Police Chief Bill Villanova.

Oak Lawn Signs on as Cool City

Your browser may not support display of this image. Oak Lawn, April 24, 2010 - Oak Lawn achieved the distinction of being Illinois 50th Cool City when Mayor Mayor Dave Heilmann signed the US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. With the support of the city council and upon the recommendation of the Green Team, Mayor Heilmann joined over 1,000 cities nationwide who have made a commitment to clean energy.

"Cool Cities are committed to promoting energy efficiency and developing sustainable communities, saving citizens tax dollars, improving air quality and reducing the threat of climate change consequences," stated Mayor Heilmann

Since 2005, over 1,000 city and county leaders have made a commitment to cut their community's carbon footprint. It is a collaboration between community members, organizations, businesses, and local leaders to implement clean energy solutions that save money, create jobs, and help curb global warming. Trustee Olejniczak, chair of the Oak Lawn Green Team, added that "Oak Lawn is working toward being such a leader in energy efficiency and these sustainable actions."

Illinois fifty Cool Cities, from Waukegan to Carbondale, are leading the way on innovative, cost effective, solutions to global warming", commented Lonnie Morris, volunteer chair of the Sierra Club's Cool Cities initiative. "It's all about saving energy, which means saving money for cities and citizens."

Oak Lawn was recognized as Illinois 50th Cool City at its Earth Day event on Saturday, April 24th 2010. Sierra Club Cool Cities chair Lonnie Morris, Oak Lawn Green Team members and both Village and Park District officials were at Wolfe Wildlife Refuge for the official recognition and enjoyed the events of the 3rd Oak Lawn Earth Day co-hosted by the Village of Oak Lawn and the Oak Lawn Park District. Officials present included Village Clerk Jane Quinlan, Village Trustee and Green Team Chair Alex Olejniczak, Village Manager Larry Deetjen, Park Commissioner and President Donna McCauley, Park Commissioner Gary Callahan, Park Commissioner Sue Murphy, and Park District Director Maddie Kelly.

For more information about Oak Lawn's accomplishments in Cool Cities see http://cooleities.us For more information on the Oak Lawn Green Team visit, http: oaklawn-il.gov Left-Menu Green-Team.aspx or contact them at greenteam@oaklawn-il.gov.

A messge from Roland Burris

My fellow Illinoisans,

Over the past two years, the reckless culture of Wall Street gambling brought the American economy to the brink of collapse. Millions lost their savings, their retirements, their homes, and their sense of economic security. Families and small businesses here in Illinois and all across the country continue to feel the effects, while the big banks on Wall Street continue to operate with unregulated greed.

It is time to hold Wall Street accountable and to put Illinois consumers back in control. The American taxpayers should never again have to bail out another financial institution. The financial reform bill, now before the United States Senate, contains aggressive measures to ban these bailouts and to end the idea of "Too Big To Fail." This legislation increases oversight to better monitor these banks and their practices, prevents risky gambling on Wall Street, and creates sweeping new levels of transparency and consumer protections.

As a former banker myself, I strongly support this tough new legislation. It is time to put Main Street ahead of Wall Street and to guarantee that the working families of Illinois will never again be called upon to bail out Wall Street bankers.

I am proud to represent you in the U.S. Senate and remain committed to fighting for your interests every day. Please visit my website at burris.senate.gov or contact me with any questions or concerns. * Bans Bailouts And Ends "Too Big To Fail." This bill guarantees that taxpayers will never again be forced to bail out reckless Wall Street firms. It creates a safe way to liquidate failed financial firms without taxpayer money, imposes tough new capital and leverage requirements to prevent firms from growing "too big to fail", and strengthens the Fed's authority to protect and support the larger economic system without having to prop up individual Wall Street firms.

Crime Free Housing program spurs landlords' group

The City of Oak Forest, Village of Tinley Park and Village of Orland Park will hold an informational meeting for apartment landlords, who are interested in joining the Southwest Suburban Landlords' Association, on Tuesday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Orland Park Police Department (15100 Ravinia Drive). The newly formed group aims to offer landlords in those communities a forum to discuss aspects of the Crime Free Multi Housing Program, which assists tenants, owners and managers of rental properties in keeping drugs and other criminal activity away from their rental properties.

"We strongly encourage all local landlords to attend this meeting," said Officer Eric Wynn, who manages the Crime Free Multi Housing Program in Oak Forest. "By actively participating in this program, they can help send the message that our community will not tolerate criminal activity in our rental properties. Our number one priority is to keep our residents safe."

During the meeting, representatives from the association and participating police departments will review the association's purpose, goals and resources as well as answer any questions.

For more information, please contact Officer Wynn at 708-687-4050, ext. 1295 or ewynn@oak-forest.org.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnews@sbcglobal.net

Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnews@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

City of Oak Forest releases proposed 2010-2011 budget

The Oak Forest City Council is expected to approve the proposed fiscal year 2010-2011 annual budget, which describes the city's revenue and expenditures for the twelve months beginning May 1, 2010.

The general fund budget includes a surplus of $529,000, which will result in an estimated fund balance of $1.2 million at the end of fiscal year 2011 – the city's goal is to have a $3 million fund balance by the end of fiscal year 2012.

"Due to the economic downturn, we will not meet our fund balance goal in 2012," said Finance Director Colleen Julian. "Although we're moving in the right direction, we need to look for ways to increase the required fund balance so that we can continue to give residents quality services without raising taxes."

Department heads and elected officials reduced expenditures for fiscal year 2010-2011 by 2.65 percent by reducing labor costs through pay freezes, layoffs and furlough days; decreasing legal fees; and postponing capital purchases. Capital expenditures, which are expected to exceed $12 million, include water and sewer main upgrades and resurfacing Victoria Drive and Laramie Avenue. These projects will be funded by bond proceeds and motor fuel tax funds. The City Council will devise a plan to increase revenues to fund the water and sewer operations, which currently report a deficit of $509,000.

The entire budget is available on the city's Web site at www.oak-forest.org or at the Acorn Library, located at 15624 S. Central.

America COMPETES Act moves through committee

Research and Science Education Subcommittee Chairman Dan Lipinski helped lead passage of bipartisan legislation through the House Science and Technology Committee to maintain America's leading position in the global economy and create jobs by investing in science education and innovative research in areas such as manufacturing. The America COMPETES Act, H.R. 5116, includes Chairman Lipinski's National Science Foundation reauthorization bill. It also contains measures he authored to establish prizes for breakthrough scientific research and to require the Department of Energy to develop a plan to increase the number of American products bought by our National Laboratories, including Fermilab and Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois.

"This bill is about creating American jobs and laying the groundwork for long-term economic prosperity," said Chairman Lipinski, a former college teacher and researcher who holds two engineering degrees. "If America is going to continue to be the world's leading source of innovation and job creation, we cannot rest, not when China and other countries are working feverishly to overtake us. This bill will help us maintain our competitive edge by doubling our investment in basic research programs; supporting transformative research in key areas such as clean energy; improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education; investing in research to enhance the manufacturing sector's productivity and innovation; and improving programs to ensure researchers' discoveries translate into new products, jobs, and companies."

"Northwestern University strongly supports the reauthorization of the COMPETES Act, and thanks Congressman Lipinski for his leadership on this important legislation," Northwestern President Morton O. Schapiro said. "We especially commend Congressman Lipinski's concern with human investment. By cultivating the next generation of scientists and engineers, this bill helps to ensure that our future workforce will have the education and skills to compete in the global marketplace."

Chairman Lipinski's NSF reauthorization helps American manufacturing by authorizing grants to colleges and universities for high-tech manufacturing research. And it strengthens the nation's high-tech workforce through new grant and fellowship programs designed to improve STEM education and participation at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Chairman Lipinski's Buy American amendment would support high-skill, high-wage jobs at innovative small U.S. manufacturers by requiring the Department of Energy to develop a plan for increasing hardware purchases from domestic sources. This will help local manufacturers such as Meyer Tool & Manufacturing Inc. in Oak Lawn, which supplies a number of National Laboratories.

In addition, the COMPETES Act includes Chairman Lipinski's bipartisan GENIUS Act, H.R. 5094, which creates an NSF program to offer up to $12 million in cash prizes for solving crucial basic research problems in science and engineering. A cost-effective way to inspire researchers to tackle difficult problems, the GENIUS Act draws on the long history of prize programs, which includes such recent successes as the $10 million Ansari X Prize, which resulted in the development of a reusable manned spacecraft. For more on the GENIUS Act, see the attached press release.

"Congressman Lipinski's leadership in advancing the NSF reauthorization process as part of the larger COMPETES Act reauthorization acknowledges the importance of sustaining investments in basic research as part of an economic recovery," University of Chicago President Robert J. Zimmer said. "We commend Congressman Lipinski for his active engagement of the research community by holding a number of listening sessions throughout the legislative process."

"By supporting the scientific leaders of tomorrow, the National Science Foundation builds a sturdy foundation for knowledge based industries, which in turn lay the groundwork for improved scientific literacy, high-quality future employment, and sustainable economic growth," said Lance Grande, Senior Vice President of Collections and Research at the Field Museum in Chicago. "We want to thank Congressman Lipinski for his work on the NSF reauthorization and the broader COMPETES Act, and for listening to our views and needs."

"History shows that substantial and targeted investments in education and research pay tremendous dividends in the form of increased economic growth and job creation," Chairman Lipinski said. "The COMPETES Act takes a proactive and bipartisan approach to securing America's position in the 21st century global economy. It acknowledges the challenges America faces from abroad, but shows that we are prepared to work together as a nation to overcome them and build on our unparalleled record of innovation. I look forward to continuing to help guide this bill to passage this year."

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The Village of Evergreen Park announces what's happening in the Park

May 6th and 7th, Hidden Talents, an after school program based at Queen of Martyrs, presents Thoroughly Modern Millie Junior at Oak View community Center, 4625 W. 110th St. 6pm and 8pm, $7 a ticket.

Friday May 7th - Most Holy Redeemer School and the Missoula Children's Theater present King Arthur's Quest at 1pm and 7pm in Briody Hall, 97th & Millard. Tickets are $5

May 7, Friday 7th St Bernadettes Athletic Assoc. Flower Sale begins from 5-8 pm and continues Sat. and Sun. 8th - 8 am - 1 pm. High quality plants flowers baskets, pots and flats

SAVE THE DATE

EP Rec Dept Summer Program Registration begins Monday, May 10th, 9am - 6pm Swim Program registration begins Monday, May 17th, 6-7:30 pm at the Community Center, 3450 W. 97th St

Both registrations will continue until classes fill or start. The new recreation books (in newsletter form) are in the mail. You may also view the new book on line at www.evergreenpark-il.com. St. Bernadette June Bug Preschool Camp June 7-18th. www.sbschool.us Preschool.htm for more information

EP Fire Dept 3rd Annual Kid's Health Fair will be held at the firehouse on May 19th from 3:30-7:00pm Evergreen Park Annual Day in the Park and 5k walk run will take place on Saturday, June 26th EP Annual Independence Day Parade and Fireworks will take place on Friday, July 2nd. The new Evergreen Park web site is up and running. Check us out at www.evergreenpark-il.com.

Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124 will offer full day kindergarten classes beginning Fall 2010. For information or to register please call, 708-423-0950

Starting May 1st the census workers will be in our neighborhood ringing door bells collecting information from people who did not return their census forms. Please give them the information they need.

Make your automobile a NO CELL PHONE ZONE. Pledge to turn off your cell phone or put it in your glove compartment while driving your car. Now that the weather is warmer people are everywhere. Be safe, don't talk text while driving. Congratulations to First Holy Communicants and Graduates this weekend.

MetroSouth Medical Center offers free knee pain toolkit

MetroSouth Medical Center is now offering a complimentary tool kit for women who want to strengthen their hamstring quads to prevent or eliminate knee pain. The free kit consists of a therapeutic strengthening band and a helpful card that explains five simple, at-home exercises. The "Knee Pain Loves Women" toolkit is available by visiting www.healthconnect.metrosouthmedicalcenter.com or the gift shop in the MetroSouth Medical Center main lobby.

The video at http://healthconnect.metrosouthmedicalcenter.com/20100/03/metrosouth-helping-women-with-knee-pain further demonstrates the appropriate technique for using these exercises.

A rising number of women struggle with osteoarthritis, the most common source of knee pain in women. Recent studies show that women are struck by knee pain more frequently than their male counterparts. In fact, 60% of the 27 million Americans with osteoarthritis are women and approximately two-thirds of all knee replacements are performed on women. Experts point to weight loss and strengthening exercises for warding off osteoarthritis-induced knee pain.

A new study by researchers at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics found that thigh muscle strength does predict incidence of painful or stiff knee osteoarthritis. Women with the strongest quadriceps muscles appeared to be protected against the development of knee osteoarthritis symptoms. The simple exercises described in the toolKit and video were developed by a MetroSouth Medical Center physical therapist and are specifically designed for women with knee pain.

"Women tend to have more knee pain than men do," explains Dr. Miranda Huffman, a MetroSouth family medicine doctor. "In general, women have less cartilage that cushions the knee and after menopause, the loss of estrogen causes cartilage to break down faster."

For more information about women and knee pain www.healthconnect.metrosouthmedicalcenter.com.

Beverly Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday May 9

The 11th Annual Beverly Breast Cancer Walk will be held this Mother's Day, May 9, 2010. This very special event is the largest walk in Chicago's Southwest area with proceeds to benefit Little Company of Mary Hospital. The three-mile route starts in Ridge Park (96th and Longwood Drive).

To help alleviate parking, a bus service will transport walkers from the east end of Little Company of Mary's parking lot at 95th and California between 7 to 7:40 a.m. and drop off at 95th and Longwood Drive. Return transportation continues until 10:15 a.m. Also, participants who are unable to walk are invited to ride the trolley throughout the route.

The annual event has raised more than $1 million for breast cancer treatment.

Register early to receive a free T-shirt with your $30 entry fee. The entry fee for children ages 18 and under is $15. Same day registration is $5 more and shirt sizes are not guaranteed.

To register for the 11th Annual Beverly Breast Cancer Walk please visit www.beverlybreastcancerwalk.org or call 708.229.5256.

To take a free breast cancer on-line risk assessment please visit www.pinstingpainfree cancer.org breast.

Chicago Ridge Public Library offer various programs

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford is hosting Entering, Re-entering, & Changing Careers on Thursday, May 6th at 7:00 p.m. Facilitated by Wendy Lalli, a Career Counselor, Wendy will address the major challenges in many industries these difficult times have caused. This free seminar will deal with how to use your current and past experience to transition into other industries. It will also give solid suggestions to those entering the workforce or re-entering it after a long absence. Learn how to use e-mail, online job boards and social networking to find and apply for jobs and to build a supportive professional network. Call the library at 423-7753 if you have any questions.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, is hosting "Grow a Pizza Garden" on Monday, May 17th at 7:00 p.m. Toss together a hanging basket that will provide you with yummy pizzas all summer long. Bring your own hanging basket and we'll provide the soil, seeds and plants to get your pizza factory cooking!

Carry out was never so convenient as you backyard. A $2 fee is required. Register and Pre-pay by May 14th. Call the library at 423-7753 with any questions.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, will be closed on Sunday, May 9th. The library will re-open on Monday, May 10th at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, May 23rd is the last of our Sunday hours until September.

Call the library at 423-7753 if you have any questions. Visit our website www.chicagoridge.lib.il.us for the latest information.

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Worth holding the annual Beautification Day on May 15

Come to the annual village wide Beautification Day for the Village of Worth. Meet at 8 a.m. at the Village Hall on Saturday, May 15th to check in and assist with planting or cleaning the Lucas Berg Nature Preserve.

Pleaseregister at the Village Hall if you would like a T Shirt. Visitwww.villageofworth.com or call 708-448-1181 for information. Great for service hours!

The Village hall is located at 7112 W. 111th Street in Worth.

The Lucas Berg Nature Preserve is located at 7600 W 111th Street in Worth.

Come see this hidden treasure! The Village of Worth is looking for Crafters for the annual Worth Days Fest. Please call 708-448-1181 for an application or visit us online at www.villageofworth.com

Worth Days is August 6,7,8 with crafters needed on the 7th and 8th

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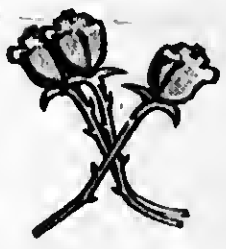

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American Legion Auxiliary meeting held in Evergreen Park

The Evergreen Park American Legion Auxiliary will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, May 17, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Officers for the 2010-2011 year will be elected, and all members are welcome to attend. The meeting will be held at the American Legion Hall, Post 854, 9701 S. Kedzie Ave.

The Auxiliary promotes patriotism and is committed to helping veterans, their dependents, active service men and women, and the community.

If you would like information about joining the Auxiliary, please contact Dian Kinahan at 708-229-2129.

Police Department presents Officer Gregory Okon with lifesaving award

The Oak Forest Police Department presented Officer Gregory Okon with a lifesaving award April 27 for his actions, which prevented a resident from committing suicide on April 7. "From all accounts, Greg went above and beyond the call of duty by placing his own life in jeopardy and saving the life of another," said Police Chief Greg Anderson. "Without his immediate and fearless response, this incident may have had a tragic ending."

Upon arriving at the house, Okon was informed that a female resident, who was suicidal, was in the garage with the doors locked and her vehicle running. While trying to gain entry into the garage, Okon tried speaking to the resident but received no response. At that time, he forced his way into the garage and found the resident lying on the ground almost unconscious. Quickly, Okon pulled her outside into the fresh air where he waited with her and her family for an ambulance to arrive.

"Greg displayed great care and concern for life that day," Anderson added. "He's a valuable member of our department and I'm proud to honor him with this award."

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State of the Village Address for Oak Lawn

The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will host its second annual "State of the Village" address on Friday, May 7 at the Johnson-Phelps VFW Post #5220 (9514 S. 52nd. Ave.) The Chamber will welcome special guest speaker, Village President, Dave Heilmann, who will address issues such as the Village infrastructure, taxes, and short- and long-terms plans. The breakfast is open to Chamber members, business owners and residents. There is no cost to attend, however, please R.S.V.P. to the Chamber office at (708) 424-8300 or email at office@oaklawnchamber.com Founded in 1946, today the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce consists of more than 300 members. The Chamber of Commerce works to represent and advance the Oak Lawn business community, striving with constant integrity, fairness and cooperation to promote and improve the economic atmosphere, business climate and image of Oak Lawn.

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MAMA IS REALLY IN THE KITCHEN!

Mama Luigi's
Italian Cuisine Banquets Cocktails
7500 South Harlem Ave. -- Bridgeview
Mother's Day
Champagne Brunch and
Champagne Dinner Buffet
Sunday, May 9th

Pamper mom this Mother's Day by taking her to Mama Luigi's Extravagant Champagne Brunch or Champagne Dinner Buffet this year. With over a hundred items changing throughout the day, you're sure to find plenty of scrumptious choices that will satisfy your appetite.

Scrambled Fluffy Eggs, Cinnamon French Toast, Smoked Virginia Ham, Country Bacon Strips, Breakfast Sausage Links, Hash Brown Potatoes, Etc, Etc...

Calamari Salad, Cole Slaw, Tuna Seashell, Potato Salad, Antipasti Salad, Ziti Clam Salad, Tomato Onion Salad, Crab Salad, Shrimp Pasta Salad, Caesar Salad, Macaroni Salad, Lobster Rigatoni Salad Assorted Cheese Tray, Etc, Etc...

Smoked Salmon, White Fish, Italian Baked Chicken, Roast Beef, Oven Roasted Fresh Turkey with Dressing, Carved Virginia Ham, Fresh Homemade Mama Luigi's Signature Italian Sausage, Extra Cheesy Lasagna, Creamy Pasta Primavera, Penne with Eggplant, Cheese Tortellini Alfredo, Meat Ravioli, Baked Stuffed Shells, Macaroni and Cheese, Mashed Potatoes, Vesuvio Potatoes, Roasted Potatoes, French Fries, Etc, Etc...

Tender Roast Beef, Barbecue Ribs, Chicken Parmesan, Roast Loin of Pork, Broiled Scrod, Chicken Linguini, Fettuccine Alfredo, Dominic Special, Etc, Etc...

Chocolate Fountain, Fresh Fruit Displays, Assorted Jell-O Molds, Chocolate Mousse, Fresh Pastries, Eclairs, Cream Puffs, Brownies, Cannoli, Baklava, Cheesecake, Etc, Etc...

10am - 2 pm Brunch 2pm-7pm - Buffet Dinner
Adults $19.99 Kids 6 to12 yrs $8.99
Kids 5 and under FREE

Reservations are a must.
Call 708-496-0900
Limited Dinner Menu Also Available in Dining Room

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FAMILY RESTAURANT
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• Roast Chicken
Soups - Cream Of Chicken And Rice
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Census Enumerators to Visit Orland Park Homes

Households That Didn't Return Forms Can Expect A Visit

Census enumerators will visit the Orland Park homes of residents who did not return their U.S. Census forms beginning May 1. Enumerators are area residents hired by the Census Bureau to make sure everyone is counted as accurately as possible. Each enumerator, identified by an official U.S. Census badge, is equipped with a binder containing all of the addresses that didn't return census forms.

"Orland Park has had a very high level of participation," said Mayor Dan McLaughlin. "Nationwide, we rank among the top 50 towns with populations of 50,000 or more," the mayor said.

Census totals determine which states gain or lose representation in Congress. Data will directly affect how more than $1 trillion is allocated to local, state and tribal governments over the next ten years.

"Orland Park's public education efforts have worked and we thank everyone who has returned their census form," said Village Clerk David Maher whose office is coordinating Orland Park's participation. "However, we still have households that haven't responded. These residents can expect a visit from an enumerator," Maher said.

Census takers will visit all of the addresses that have not returned the mailed census forms. If no one answers at a particular residence, the census taker will return up to three times and will try to reach the household by phone three times.

The worker will leave a double sided, English and Spanish, notice of visit in the door that includes a phone number for the resident to schedule an appointment. Participation in the 2010 Census is very important and required by law.

The Associated Press has reported that five states are in jeopardy of losing congressional seats because of citizens not returning their forms. Average or below average responses have been reported in New York, California, Texas, Arizona and Florida.

All census responses are confidential and the person collecting the information is sworn for life to protect the data. Those who violate the oath face criminal penalties and can be fined up to $250,000 or imprisoned for up to five years for disclosing information.

Further information is available by calling the census at 866-872-6868.

Go Green and save program coming to the Acorn Public Library

Interested in saving money? Want to help save the planet? Then join Jodi Klusacek of Nature's Resources at the Acorn Public Library District as she presents a program called Go Green and Save! She will discuss simple things that once can do that are both environmentally and financially friendly. Topics covered will include green spring cleaning, money saving tips, how to offset your carbon footprint, green gardening and eco-shopping. Also, cell phones, ink cartridges and batteries will be accepted for recycling. This event is being held on Thursday May 6th at 7 PM as a slightly-belated commemoration of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.

Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in Oak Forest.

Please visit the library or call (708) 687-3700 to register for program. This program is offered free to the public.

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Pamper mom this Mother's Day by taking her to Mama Luigi's Extravagant Champagne Brunch or Champagne Dinner Buffet this year. With over a hundred items changing throughout the day, you're sure to find plenty of scrumptious choices that will satisfy your appetite.
Scrambled Fluffy Eggs, Cinnamon French Toast, Smoked Virginia Ham, Country Bacon Strips, Breakfast Sausage Links, Hash Brown Potatoes, Etc, Etc...
Calamari Salad, Cole Slaw, Tuna Seashell, Potato Salad, Antipasti Salad, Ziti Clam Salad, Tomato Onion Salad, Crab Salad, Shrimp Pasta Salad, Caesar Salad, Macaroni Salad, Lobster Rigatoni Salad Assorted Cheese Tray, Etc, Etc...
Smoked Salmon, White Fish, Italian Baked Chicken, Roast Beef, Oven Roasted Fresh Turkey with Dressing, Carved Virginia Ham, Fresh Homemade Mama Luigi's Signature Italian Sausage, Extra Cheesy Lasagna, Creamy Pastar Primavera, Penne with Eggplant, Cheese Tortellini Alfredo, Meat Ravioli, Baked Stuffed Shells, Macaroni and Cheese, Mashed Potatoes, Vesuvio Potatoes, Roasted Potatoes, French Fries, Etc, Etc...
Tender Roast Beef, Barbecue Ribs, Chicken Parmesan, Roast Loin of Pork, Broiled Scrod, Chicken Linguini, Fettuccine Alfredo, Dominic Special, Etc, Etc...
Chocolate Fountain, Fresh Fruit Displays, Assorted Jell O Molds, Chocolate Mousse, Fresh Pastries, Eclairs, Cream Puffs, Brownies, Cannoli, Baklava, Cheesecake, Etc, Etc...
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Adults $19.99 Kids 6 to12 yrs $8.99
Kids 5 and under FREE
Reservations are a must.
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Mothers Day Menu
• Prime Rib • Leg of Lamb
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Soups - Cream Of Chicken And Rice
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Serving Wonderful Food For Over 50 years

St. Albert's eighth grade class received their ribbons

The 8th Graders of St. Albert the Great Catholic School in Burbank are on their way to graduation. The students received their graduation ribbons during Mass on Friday, April 30. After Mass, according to St. Albert tradition, they enjoyed being served breakfast by the 7th & 6th graders.

The breakfast was hosted by The Parent Association of the school. Consider being part of the St. Albert Family, and visit our Open House on Monday, May 10 from 10:00AM - 6:30PM.

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Mt Carmel High School board appoints new principal

Mount Carmel High School Announces appointment of new principal, John Stimler

The Mount Carmel High School Board of Directors and Fr. Carl J. Markelz, O.Carm., President of Mount Carmel, are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. John Stimler as the 21st Principal of the school, effective July 1, 2010. Stimler currently serves as Campus Minister and as a faculty member in the Theology Department at Mount Carmel.

Stimler brings a wealth of experience in Catholic education to Mount Carmel's administrative team. For the last fourteen years he has worked in Catholic schools as a teacher, campus minister, and administrator. He began working at Mount Carmel in 2008, where he organizes school retreats, liturgies, faith formation opportunities, and summer service opportunities in addition to his outstanding contributions as a classroom teacher.

"I am honored to be selected as Mount Carmel High School's next principal," said Stimler. "In cooperation with the Carmelites and lay faculty and staff, I look forward to continuing Mount Carmel's over 110-year tradition of academic excellence and to providing the leadership necessary to meet the academic and spiritual needs of our student body."

Stimler holds a Bachelor of Arts in History, Certificate in Business, and Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Quincy University in Quincy, Illinois. The appointment was approved by the Board of Directors on Tuesday, April 20.

Stimler, who will serve as Mount Carmel's first lay principal, succeeds Fr. Carl J. Markelz, O.Carm., who served as principal for the past 14 years in addition to his role as president. Fr. Markelz, who was acknowledged and thanked by the Board of Directors for his successful tenure as principal, will remain in his role as President of Mount Carmel.

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Solemn Novena
Thursday, May 13 - Friday, May 21, 2010
6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:00 p.m. Mass and Novena Prayers

Feast Day Masses
Saturday, May 22, 2010
9:30 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
10:00 a.m. Mass and Novena Prayers
6:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
7:00 p.m. Mass and Novena Prayers

Blessed Roses will be distributed at the Feast Day Masses

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The Pebble Message

by J.R. Haymaker

One beautiful summer day in Chicago somewhere around 1961, I had just come home from playing with some friends. Since I was only six years old, I felt small near adults. I had noticed a car in the driveway of my parent's house. It turned out to be my Uncle Ray paying us a visit. He was standing in the driveway by the back of the house as I approached. I had not recognized the car because it was his unmarked police car. He was a homicide detective for the Chicago Police Department. I said "Hi, Uncle Ray while I walked up the drive. I happened to look at the ground when I came near him and just then we both noticed something really out of the ordinary. A small pebble in the dirt strip, between the driveway slabs, had been most of the way in the ground and seemed to pop out of its place, as if a small spring had pushed it out of its place and it came to rest about half an inch from the hole where it had just been! Both my uncle and I starred at the pebble lying there near the hole. The air was still. We were both astounded at what had just happened. Even though I was only six years old, I was well aware that dead solid objects were not supposed to move by themselves for no reason. I looked up at my uncle and said "That wasn't supposed to happen, was it"? He was visibly shaking and his voice trembled when he shook his head and said "No, it wasn't"! Here was a man that dealt with concrete facts to build cases for prosecutors seeking to jail murderers. I was surprised that he was so clearly shaken to see such a seemingly small thing happen, as a pebble move by itself! I had never seen or heard of anything like that short of the bible. Many of the biblical miracles greatly surpassed this small thing, yet I'm certain my belief in such things is much easier after having witnessed this for myself.

My uncle and I never spoke of this pebble again until just last year when I asked him if he remembered it. He said he did not. Maybe he blocked it out of his memory because it didn't fit into the solid foundation of the science of the world that he really believed. He and my Aunt Mary are both Catholic. I imagined that it was something like when they said there was a Santa Claus. Something you say you believe, but really don't. The purpose was to keep order in the world for people to believe in religion and follow its teachings. Maybe more people need to see something like the pebble move by itself. They would probably just explain it to themselves like a Mexican jumping bean or something.

It wouldn't be the last time it happened. My friends and I had a habit of hanging out on the corner of my street when I was sixteen years old. It gave us some time out of our homes away from everyone else to relax, and joke around for a while in the early evening hours. I walked toward the corner as my friends Dave Powell, Tim Hamilton, Kurt Potter stood there kidding around with one another while looking down the street my way. There smiles turned to shocked stares at the same moment when I was about eight feet away and they all started pointing near my feet and said to one another "Did you see that stone move". I hadn't been looking down at that moment to see it but knew exactly what they were talking about. So I pointed down at my feet at the nearest stone and asked them if that was the one they were talking about. They all agreed that it was, so I picked it up and held it out toward them. They all recoiled in fear. I explained that it was just a stone and it could not hurt them. "Yea! Throw it away, they all said! So, then I said "Should I throw it over there. They urged me to throw it where I had indicated so I gave it a toss to the ground.

Since I knew it was not the first time this had happened it had to mean something? Like a shadow of future events or something.

Moraine Valley Board of Trustees seeks applications for vacancy

The Moraine Valley Community College Board of Trustees seeks qualified candidates to fill a vacancy on the board until April 2011.

The vacancy was created by the death of Mary Nolan, who died April 21 after a lengthy illness. Trustee Nolan served 15 years on the board.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, a U.S. citizen and a resident of the college district for at least one year. Trustees serve without pay.

Interested residents should submit a cover letter, stating their qualifications and reasons for serving on the board, and a résumé. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, May 21. The Board of Trustees will review all applications in confidence after May 21.

Applicants may submit their materials to: The President's Office Moraine Valley Community College 9000 W. College Pkwy. Palos Hills, IL 60465-0937

Midlothian Library announces their program

The Friends of Midlothian Library will meet Wednesday, May 5th at 6PM.

Special Guest Reader In Honor of Children's Book Week Monday, May 10th at 5PM Local resident, Anton Sykes was chosen as a little boy, by renowned children's illustrator Jan Spivey Gilchrist as a model for the book William and the Good Old Days, by author Eloise Greenfield.

He is now Sergeant Sykes in the U.S. National Guard.

Contact the Library at 708-535-2027 and join us as Sgt. Sykes reads the story and answers questions about his career..

High Point student Ricky Aguinaga accepts a slice of pizza from Principal Marianne Byrnes, who served the students in Aguinaga's class lunch for bringing in the most pop tabs, which are being donated to two Ronald McDonald Houses

High Point School Donates 350+ Pounds of Pop Tabs

High Point students recently concluded their collection of pop tabs for the Hope Children's Hospital Ronald McDonald House, and for the third consecutive year, contributed more than 350 pounds of tabs in just six weeks. The classroom that brought in the most tabs, a whopping 68 pounds from the students of teachers Kathy Silver and Mary Jo Dunn, earned a pizza luncheon served by Principal Marianne Byrnes and Assistant Principal Nancy Stachura. Because of the collection's success, the school's Student Council was able to donate a portion of the tabs to the Mayo Clinic Ronald McDonald House in the name of a colleague's son who is battling cancer

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A new Venue in today's economy

by Alan Bresloff

There is a new theater complex in Chicago. Three 99 seat theaters within the walls of the new Theater Wit, former Bariwick Building on Belmont, a marvelously done venue that will allow smaller theater companies to bring their works to audiences in a wonderful, comfortable setting. While still under construction, auditorium one is completed as is the lobby and the bathrooms, so Theater Wit is presenting a new comedy by Penny Pennistion called "SPIN". Bravo to Theater Wit for making this new venue available for players and audiences alike and helping to make Belmont Avenue a theater destination district.

Theater Wit's mission statement says that they are exploring contemporary issues with wit and wisdom through new works. Ms Pennistion's "SPIN" is supposed to relate to the advertising industry and its people. Do all ad men eat, sleep and drink ideas? To some degree, this could be true, but this is a story that is much more compleated than this. Our hero, Brent (a solid and very believable performance by Coburn Goss) is an art director who has just lost his job and his wife. He has just saved a young homeless girl, Danielle (a smart character played to perfection by the lovely Alice Wedoff) who he has often seen on his way home, from her boyfriend Aaron (Michael Kessler who starts off slow but improves as the story progresses- this could be the story, not the actor) who is a sort of revolutionary against all big business and their making products in foreign countries to make more money, thus depriving Americans of jobs.

Brent takes Danielle into his home with the idea that he will call an old friend in social services to assist her. Everything seems okay until Redge (deftly handled by veteran Jac Faust), an old associate shows up with story boards in hand and the need of a clever "pitch" for a new client. Brent says no, but is persuaded to take the job. The rest of the team, Jack , the always dependable Lance Baker, who has perfect timing when it comes to the comic touch. He can make a nod of the head funny, and does) meet and work all night to create the concept for this beer company. Ruby Jones, played with a special touch by Austin Talley, a super star tennis player will be their spokesperson and the beer executive buy it. Trouble is there are a few little bumps in the road. Turns out that Ruby , prior to becoming a star athlete had a little legal trouble. Now thanks to the Internet, the videos of this event are all over. How will the beer sponsor handle this? Brent, who has been a lonely man, finds himself in lust with his houseguest,

In addition to these problems, Aaron has left for Mexico to blow up the capitalist pigs taking advantage of the system, but ends up getting lost and returning for his true love, Danielle, who now wants no part of him or his ideals and the costumes by Laura Brookshire Kollar. Part of the play is that when they win the beer contract and are going to shoot the commercial, they duplicate Brent's home for it

The title of this show can be interpreted in many ways- in ad lingo, the "spin" is how the agency creators see the campaign Another use of this word would be in Brent's life at this time. No job, no wife and no future. He looks at Zen being the avenue to change his life, and I guess the third way may be how the days spin by, each one making us a little different than the previous day, sometimes better, often worse A fourth might be the power we get when we see success just beyond us and how life spins out as we attempt to seize total control of everyone and everything around us.

"SPIN" will continue at the brand new, Theater Wit, Smart art, located at 1229 West Belmont Avenue through June 5th with performances as follows: Thursday,Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are $25, open seating and can be purchased at the box office, by phone at 773-975-8150

Photo by Michael Brosilow

I Do I Do

Bernie Yvon and Heidi Kettenring star in I DO! I DO! at Theatre at the Center, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana, running April 22 through May 23 with a press opening of April 25. To purchase individual or group tickets call the Box Office at 219.836.3255 or Tickets.com at 800.511.1552. For more information on Theater at the Center, visit www.TheatreatTheCenter.com.

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Broadway in Chicago announces their new venue

by Alan Bresloff

To celebrate it's ten years of bring Chicago the finest of Broadway's finest sometimes before it even goes to New York, Broadway in Chicago announced the newest venture and one that should be a dream come true for the audiences of Chicago- Broadway in Chicago and Water Tower Place announced today a new venue, the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place. This is the theater built by the late Tony DeSantis as Drury Lane at Water Tower Place and will fulfill a dream of the DeSantis family, to bring quality theater to the mag-mile so tourists and local residents will be able to see the lights as they stroll down the avenue from store to store.

The beauty of this intimate theater is that smaller productions can come in as well as one person shows and concerts that can get lost in the vastness of the other theaters in the Broadway in Chicago "stable"- Ford Theatre For The Performing Arts, The Cadillac Palace Theatre and the Bank of America Theater as well as the usage of the Auditorium Theatre at Roosevelt University.

Shows like "An Evening with Sutton Foster", "Traces" and a brand new version of Studs Terkel's "Working" will work far better in the intimacy of the new Broadway Playhouse than in any of the aforementioned larger venues.

The 550 seat theater will be undergoing a make-over that will make the exterior have a different look and the lobby will have some cosmetic changes, but the auditorium area should probably remain as is.

DeSantis designed the original Drury Lane so that patrons would never complain about their seat- something that he always strove for, happy theater audiences!

There are shows that over the years never made Chicago part of the road tour as we were not in a position to house what they needed to bring their shows, but now, with the Broadway Playhouse and the reputation of the "Theater in Chicago", nothing will pass us by. Chicago, with this wonderful treasure of a theater and its great location, will be able to move shows from other venues as the need arises.

Just recently, we watched this take place with "Million Dollar Quartet" that moved from The Goodman to the Apollo, and is still going strong. We now have more opportunities to make this happen.

For the theater audiences of Chicago, I thank you Broadway in Chicago for making this take place.

Broadway in Chicago also unveiled its 2010/2011 season series- wow! What a line-up:

"Fuerza Bruta:Look Up"
"Rock of Ages"
"Traces"
"9 to 5: The Musical"
"White Christmas"
"Burn The Floor"

"Wicked" and "The Lion King" will return as "specials" You say you want more? How about "Stomp", Avenue Q", Cirque Dreams Illumination" and "No Holds Barred Jackie Mason".

This is a heck of a year for Broadway in Chicago and possibly a sign of the times that the economy is starting to see the light.

I know that the theater audiences of Chicago WILL see the lights - on the stages of the venues of Broadway in Chicago and its new addition. The Broadway Playhouse is located at 175 E. Chestnut at Water Tower Place.

For more info on dates and places: www.Broadway In-Chicago.com

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Obituaries

Cecilia A. Lesnik, nee Bill at age 87, lived in Evergreen Park, IL., was born in Chicago, IL., Beloved wife of Joseph, loving mother of Mary and Joesph Jr. Lesnik, Retiree of Little Company of Mary Hospital, Occupation as Licensed Practical Nurse.

Visitation and Funeral at Kosary Funeral Home in Evergreen Park, IL., for more information call 708-499-3223.

Trudy A. Tuggelaar nee Stalnaker, age 58, beloved wife of Daniel, loving mother of Jill Julie [Devan] Popovic, and Charlie Vizmur dear sister of Robert [Kathryn], Terrance and the late Fred Stalnaker, survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends Member of Evergreen Park American Legion Ladies Auxiliary Post 884 Occupation was a Teacher, and lived and was born in Evergreen Park, IL

Visitation was at Kosary Funeral Home, in Evergreen Park, IL., Funeral was from Chapel to St. Bernadette Church for Mass and then to Interment Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery For more information call 708-499-3223

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 9 | May 4, 2010

Tinley Park approves car dealer incentives

By
Matt Mayer

The village board approved an ordinance at the April 27 Tinley Park Board of Trustees meeting authorizing the execution of an inducement agreement between the village and International Imports LLC regarding a new Subaru dealership on the property located at 8031 W. 159th Street, and a Mazda dealership at 8301 W. 159th Street - International Imports LLC owns both dealerships.

This incentive is based on the dealerships new car sales. The agreement calls for the village to receive $37,500 in sales tax revenue per year. International Imports would receive 50 percent of the sales tax revenue in excess of $37, 500 each year for up to 10 years with a maximum incentive amount of the lesser, $395,000 or one third of verified capital expenditures for the project.

The capitol expenditures include land, building, landscaping and physical improvements to the property. The incentive amount is not guaranteed and the responsibility to achieve the maximum benefits is the responsibility of the automotive dealership. This agreement was reviewed and recommended by the finance subcommittee on April 5 and by the finance and economic development committee at a meeting on April 4. The incentives were offered to attract the dealerships to the village to compete with the surrounding communities that also have a large number of dealerships. The dealerships are a strong part of the financial structure of the village.

Village of Tinley Park Awards Six $1,000 scholarships

On May 4,2010 at the Village of Tinley Park board meeting, Mayor Edward Zabrocki will award six recipients the one-thousand dollar "Village of Tinley Park Youth Community Service Award Scholarship".

The criteria for the award is as follows: Is a current high school senior - Will receive a diploma in the spring - Resides within the Village boundaries of Tinley Park - Is planning to attend an accredited college, university, business college, vocational school or trade school in the fall. - Is active in community service in Tinley Park.

Thirty-nine applications were received this year and the following are the award winners :

Trevor Bailey-Graduating senior at Tinley Park High School, plans to attend the Princeton University in Princeton New Jersey in the fall, majoring in Material Science and Engineering.

Lefie Lindokken- Graduating senior at Tinley Park High School, plans to attend the University of Illinois in Chicago Illinois in the fall, majoring in Industrial Design.

Bridget Byrne-Graduating senior at Victor J Andrew High School, plans to attend the University of Notre Dame in South Bend Indiana in the fall, majoring in Nursing.

Nirali Shah-Graduating senior at Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy in Aurora IL, is not sure at this time at to what University she will attend in the fall, but has applied to many schools such as the University of Michigan, Emory University, Carnegie-Mellon University and Case Western University. She plans to major in Pre-Med Biological Sciences.

Adam Troe-Graduating senior at Victor J Andrew High School, plans to attend the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana Illinois in the fall majoring in Computer Engineering.

Ross Veuhuizen-Graduating senior at Chicago Christian High Scool in Palos Heights IL, plans to attend Calvin College in Grand Rapids Michigan, majoring in Political Science.

City of Oak Forest e-Briefs

Crime Free Housing Program spurs landlords' group

The City of Oak Forest, Village of Tinley Park and Village of Orland Park will hold an informational meeting for apartment landlords, who are interested in joining the Southwest Suburban Landlords' Association, on Tuesday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Orland Park Police Department (15100 Ravinia Drive).

Want to participate in the citywide garage sale? Register by April 26.

The 2nd Annual Citywide Garage Sale is Friday, May 14 and Saturday, May 15 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Alderman Laura Clemons at City Hall (15440S. Central Avenue) or lclemons@oak-forest.org.

Firefighters' host brunch for seniors Thursday, May 6.

Meet the city's firefighters, sample their fabulous cooking and enjoy a day with friends at the annual firehouse brunch for seniors on Thursday, May 6 at 9:30 a.m. at Fire Station 1 (5620 James Drive). Tickets are available at City Hall for $1. Cash bingo will follow brunch.

Help Stamp Out Hunger on Saturday, May 8 by leaving non-perishable items by your mailbox. Your letter carrier will pick up the items and deliver them to local food pantries.

Question of the Week

What are the city's requirements for garage sales?

You are permitted to have three garage sales per year. You must get permission from the City Clerk's office for each garage sale. There is no charge for the permits. Signage is permitted, however, the signs should be no larger than six-square-feet and should not be attached to utility poles or stop signs. You may post signs on your property but not on city property, which is the area between the sidewalk and the street. Also, we ask that you please remove your signs after the garage sale. If you have any questions please call 708-687-4050 ext. 1008.

Eileen Coghanese (Tinley Park resident) widow of honored fallen Chicago fireman Lieutenant Edmond Coghanese, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Chicago Spokeswoman and President of the Gold Badge Society attended Baskin Robbins 31 Cent Scoop Night

Baskin-Robbins partners with National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

What: Mark your calendars, 31 Cent Scoop Night is back at Baskin-Robbins! America 's favorite neighborhood ice cream shop is sweetening the spring season by hosting its fourth annual 31 Cent Scoop Night celebration on April 28, 2010 from 5 p.m. - 10 p.m., at all Baskin-Robbins locations nationwide. During the event, the iconic ice cream brand will thank its loyal customers by reducing the price of all 2.5 oz. ice cream scoops to just 31 cents. Treat yourself to a scoop of ice cream, or two or three, on 31 Cent Scoop Night for less than a dollar!

As part of 31 Cent Scoop Night, Baskin-Robbins will make a $100,000 donation to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, an organization that honors America 's fallen fire heroes and their families. In addition, on 31 Cent Scoop Night, select neighborhood Baskin-Robbins shops will invite their local fire departments to collect donations and scoop ice cream.

For 65 years, Baskin-Robbins has captured taste buds worldwide with unique, fun, and delicious ice cream flavors. Ice cream enthusiasts should not hesitate to take part in this special offer.

When:Wednesday, April 28, 2010, 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Where: All Baskin-Robbins store locations nationwide.

To find the closest Baskin-Robbins location in your area, please visit www.baskinrobbins.com

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 9 | May 4, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Park gives reservoir update

By
Matt Mayer

A status report was presented at the Palos Park Village Board Meeting regarding the pump station and water reservoir expansion project. The village board approved a contract with Any's of Tinley Park at the Feb 8 board meeting for $2,073,141.00 for the construction of the reservoir which includes the construction of the reservoir as well as cleaning the existing system and rehabilitation of existing underground drainage and mixer system. The project was reported to be running on time.

Other highlights. The board approved the first amendment to the McCord Gallery and Cultural Center lease agreement. The agreement includes an extension of the original lease for 6 months from May 1-Oct 31. The McCord Gallery is referred to as a welcoming home for the arts and is located at 9602 West Creek Road. Further information may be obtained by calling 708.671-0648 or emailing office@mccordgallery.org. A request to amend the name of the Illinois Funds account from Business District to Village of Palos Park Police Asset Forfeiture account was approved.

Prior to the 7:30 council meeting on May 10 there will be an open house reception honoring Patricia Jones on her retirement from the village. Coffee and cake will be served from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. All are invited to attend.

McCord Gallery to host Home Tour

McCord Gallery and Cultural Center is celebrating spring with its tour of Palos Park homes, "Tiptoe Through the Tulips." On Saturday, May 22, 2010 The House and Garden walk will feature four area homes plus a tour of McCord House.

The architecture of two of the homes echoes the work of Frank Lloyd Wright. One home is evocative of Pennsylvania's "Falling Water" with its hilltop view of Mill Creek and recto linear forms repeated throughout the home. The other home with its sweeping terraces brings to mind Chicago's Robie House. A cozy family environment is evident throughout the featured Cape Cod home which is filled with treasures from the family's travels and a unique blend of country charm and contemporary family space. The completely renovated formerly brick Tudor home is a showcase of natural simplicity combined with savvy design. Antiques juxtaposed with modern pieces reflect a warm hospitality combined with modern efficiency. The views from each window are a painting in waiting.

Visitors will start the tour at McCord House where they will pick up maps and locations of the homes. McCord House will be open from 10:00am until 4:00 pm while the doors to the other 4 homes open at 11:00 am until 3:00 pm. The McCord gift shop will be open along with an art exhibit entitled "Sprigs 'n Sprouts." Light refreshments will be available. Tickets are $30.00 per guest.

McCord Gallery 9602 W. Creek Road (129th & La Grange Rd.) Palos Park, IL 60464. Phone: 708-671-0648 or visit: www.mccordgallery.org

Transfiguration prepares for blessing of the animals

The Church of Transfiguration prepares to bless the animals. A Palos Park Police Department horse and rider are expected, and area stables have received flyers. A representative of the Animal Welfare League will attend, and the Chicago Reptile House has been invited to bring an animal. The Rev. Lane Hensley (pictured above) blesses a snake for Will Healy at a previous blessing of the animals.

Everyone is invited to bring pets of all sizes to a blessing of the animals at 10 a.m. May 16 at Church of the Transfiguration, 123rd Street at 86th Avenue. Larger animals will be blessed in the parking lot across from Plush Horse, but any that fit inside are welcome in the sanctuary. The blessing will take place during the service.

Donations of office and pet supplies will be accepted for area animal shelters, and a representative of the Animal Welfare League will attend with a companion animal. A wish list will be posted on the lobby bulletin board, and a collection box will be in the lobby, which is open from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and Sunday mornings. All ages are welcome. For information, call (708) 448-1200.

The Church of the Transfiguration, a progressive parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, and part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, is at 12219 S. 86th Ave., Palos Park, across the street from the Plush Horse ice cream parlor. Sunday services are at 8 and 10 a.m. Website: http: www.transfigpalos.org

Worth Park District

Summer Kick Off Party

The Worth Park District is kicking off the summer in style! Bring the entire family down for an afternoon of fun, entertainment and more importantly FREE hot dogs! Our summer kickoff party will include games, crafts, contests, our 40 ft inflatable slide, inflatable moonjump, and entertainment for the entire family! The summer kick off party is FREE, for all ages on Saturday, June 12 from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM. This event takes place at Worth Park District's Terrace Center.

Worth Park District Open House

Come out to the Park District's Open House, we'll be giving everyone the chance to meet staff and instructors, explore our facilities and see all that the Worth Park District has to offer. Join us for a night of fun, prizes, giveaways, inflatable's and more importantly free hot dogs! Take advantage of our early bird registration for our Tot Lot Preschool Program and Summer Day Camp at the Worth Park District's Open House. Worth Park District's open house will be on Wednesday, May 12 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM at the Terrace Centre.

Summer Day Camp

Come and spend those hot summer days with the Worth Park District! Activities are age appropriate and a whole lot of fun! Summer day camp offers a wide variety of activities for boys and girls including field trips every week to different area locations, exciting onsite activities, our once-a-week Barbecue day, and pool days 2 times a week! Day camp is for children ages 3 – 12 and is available Monday through Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM with extended hours available from 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM. Session I begins Monday, June 14 - July 2. Session II begins Monday, July 5 – July 23, Session III begins Monday, July 26 – August 13. Summer Day Camp registration begins Wednesday, May 12 at the Terrace Centre.

White Sox Patio Party

Join us as we travel to U.S. Cellular Field, we will attend the pre-game patio party followed by watching the White Sox, take on the Twins. The patio party is a 2 hour all you can eat ribs, fried chicken, Cajun chicken, hamburgers and hot dog buffet which also includes all you can drink beer, wine and pop for 2 hours! This trip leaves from the Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit) on Thursday, August 12 at 4:30 PM. This trip is for all ages and costs $ 50.00 for children 13 & under and Senior Citizens and $ 60.00 for adults. The deadline to register is August 5. For more information regarding the above events, please contact the Worth Park District at (708) 448-7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 | Number 9 | May 4, 2010

Alsip increases Gas Tax

By
Matt Mayer

The village board at the April 19 Alsip village board meeting approved an ordinance amend a chapter, an article and section of the village municipal code pertain ne vehicle fuel tax. The ordinance raises the 3-cent a gallon gas tax to 4-cents. An ordinance amending a chapter regarding administration an article regarding the plan commission and a section of the municipal code pertaining to composition, qualifications and appointments was approved as well as an ordinance amendment to the Finance Director employment agreement.

Other highlights The village board approved a Fire Department request regarding incentive pay in the amount of $25,433.39 from May 1, 2009- April 30, 2010 as well as a Fire Department request for holiday pay for fiscal year 20009-2010 in the amount of $21,725.20. A resolution of intent regarding the general obligation bond for street improvements to Laramie Avenue from 122nd to 119th Streets was approved as well as a resolution of intent regarding a general obligation bond for resurfacing of certain street.

A request to accept $40,355.34 for the month of March from the Motor Fuel Tax was approved as well as a Park District request for a permit refund of $450.00 for construction at Sears Park at 123rd St and Trumbull Avenue. A 50-percent waiver for future required permits fees for the park, was also approved. A request for a block party from 117th - 118th Leclaire Avenue on July 4th from noon to midnight with a DJ until 10:00 p.m. was approved as well as a request from Blue Cap of Blue Island to hold a Tag Day at various intersections throughout the village on Aug. 21. The month of May was proclaimed Motorcycle Awareness Month

MetroSouth Medical Center offers complimentary seminar

MetroSouth Medical Center invites women contemplating pregnancy to join them Tuesday, May 11th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in the lobby of the hospital for a light dinner and educational program about planning for pregnancy. The hospital is located at 12935 S. Gregory Street in Blue Island.

The "Pregnancy Prep" program will feature leading medical experts sharing tips about diet, exercise, and other pre-conception concerns. In addition, a fertility specialist will discuss the right time to seek help and the first lines of defense in dealing with infertility. All attendees will receive a complimentary gift and an opportunity to schedule a free pre-conception consultation with an obstetrician.

"We want to educate women about the importance of monitoring their health, knowing their genetic history, and if necessary, making lifestyle changes before becoming a mother," explains Dr. Lewis Blumenthal, Chairman of MetroSouth Medical Center's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB GYN). "It is important for a woman to be at her optimal weight and to quit smoking and or excessive drinking, because it can impact success in getting pregnant. And, as everyone knows, a healthy pregnancy almost always means a healthy baby."

Today's active women are careful planners about many things, including when they choose to become pregnant. In addition, women are working longer in their careers and getting married and having children later than in the past. According to recent research, one in five women delay their first pregnancy until age 35.

Women of all ages who are interested in getting pregnant will benefit from this program. Spouses and extended family members are welcome too. To register for this free event, call 708-489-7927. Space is limited.

MetroSouth Medical Center's Family Birth Place, where more than 1,500 babies are born each year, features a full team of board-certified neonatologists, obstetricians, family practice physicians, certified nurse midwives and nurses specializing in advanced fetal monitoring. MetroSouth Medical Center also employs skilled specialists for high-risk patients, including the only bilingual team of Maternal Fetal Medicine OB GYN physicians in the Southland, and perhaps in the Chicago area. For more information, please go online and visit www.metrosouthmedicalcenter.com

Blue Island's police and library observe Law Enforcement Week

During the week of May 10-15, National Law Enforcement Week, Blue Island's Police and Library have a series of special events planned to honor Law Enforcement Professionals and observe the 115th birthday of Blue Island's Police Department.

On Tuesday, May 11th at 7:00 pm, "Behind the Badges", a panel discussion moderated by Blue Islander Michael Black, the bestselling author of several mystery novels and a Police Officer, will take place at the Library. The panel will feature a number of Blue Island Police Officers and Blue Island Police Chief Doug Hoagland discussing 'life behind the badge'.

The next evening, Wednesday May 12th at 7:00 pm, another panel discussion, "At the Bar" will feature Criminal Court Judge Luciano Panici, States Attorneys Joe Kosman and Pat Coughlin discussing their experiences in Criminal Courts of Cook County with moderator Joe Gatrell. Prior to rejoining the states attorney's staff as a prosecutor, Kosmian served as Blue Island's Police Chief.

Both panels will take place at the Library and be recorded for broadcast on Blue Island Cable TV. Tickets for the two events are recommended and available at the Library's Main Desk.

On Saturday, May 15th, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, a Celebration and Memorial Service will take place in the parking lots of the Library and the neighboring Christ Memorial Church. The event will open with a Tribute for Fallen Officers. The day will also feature a display of vintage and current police vehicles; food & refreshments; music by John Devlin and special appearances by the Patriot Guards and the Pipes & Drums of the Emerald Society.

The Library, at 2433 York in Blue Island, is handicapped accessible. For information, call Dan Carroll, 1-708-388-1078 X 30.

SXU volunteers pack more than 300 lunches

Service Through Action Team has donated more than 1,000 lunches since December, 2009.

More than 30 Saint Xavier University students, alumni, staff and faculty members worked together to pack more than 300 lunches for needy people at South Side shelters last night at the University.

Service Through Action Team (S.T.A.T.) members prepared peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, juice boxes, chips and candy for people at Pro Labore Dei, Port Ministries, the P.R.I.D.E. school lunch program in Oak Lawn and the Oak Lawn PADS shelter.

S.T.A.T. has donated more than 1,000 lunches since its inception in December, 2009 and will continue its Brown Bag project next semester. S.T.A.T.'s next project is the Alumni Mercy Garden, in which members plant, maintain and harvest fresh vegetables to donate to local pantries and shelters.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 36 | Number 22 | May 18, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Evergreen Park receives complaints regarding truck traffic

By
Matt Maver

At the May 3 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting complaints about Pete's Grocery have increased since the store first opened in January and have increased since residents complained at the previous meeting The original complaints were an abundance of customers and employees parking and delivery truck traffic on neighborhood streets Pete's Grocery has purchased additional property west of the store and plans on razing the building on this site to construct a parking lot

However complaints continue to center around truck traffic A resident who resides on Lawndale Avenue, counted 14 trucks in March, which had left Pete's northbound on Lawndale Avenue

Spokesman Charles Poulakis from Pete's Grocery said that deliveries to the store are made between the hours of 7 a m to 10 30a m or 11 00a m and that drivers are instructed to exit the area via the alley, and then travel east to Millard Avenue and then south to 95th Street We can control our own trucks however we can't control other companies - if they don't follow the rules they can erect a sign or close the street. Poulakis said Mayor James Sexton said signs prohibiting truck traffic will be installed along Lawndale Avenue and tickets will also be issued for violators

The 10100 block of South Clifton Park Avenue was proclaimed Honorary Maureen Murphy Way"

MWRD to reduce Tax Levy by over $11 Million

President Terrence J O'Brien, of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, announced that the Board of Commissioners have approved an Ordinance directing the Cook County clerk to reduce the MWRD's tax levy for the years 2009 through 2011 by a total of $11,295,030 33

This savings is possible due to the MWRD's fiscal responsibility and from the foresight demonstrated by taking advantage of the federally-sponsored Build America Bonds (BAB) program last August which accounts for more than $9 million of the total amount of the abatement

Under the BAB program 35% of bond interest cost is reimbursed by the federal government, enabling the MWRD to reduce its interest cost from 5 72% to 3 72%

The accumulation of funds in four issues of IEPA bonds soon to mature permitted the abatement of their remaining debt service levies totaling $2 119 197 00 The MWRD has once again reduced the taxpayers' financial burden by implementing sound financial management policies President O'Brien also stated that, "The MWRD enjoyed a longtime reputation for prudent fiscal planning and conservative spending"

From left to right are Alderman Ginger Rugai, 19th Ward, FOP President Mark Donahue and Chicago Police Superintendent, Jody Wers

Police Memorial Day held in Chicago

The Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, recently held their annual "Police Memorial Day" at its headquarters at 1412 West Washington Boulevard, Chicago

President Donahue stated that the Memorial is held to "recognize our brothers and sisters that have died in service of the people of City of Chicago"

Those remembered at Lodge #7 Memorial included Sgt Alan Haymaker, Officer Alejandro Valadez, Officer Michael Robbins, Sgt Michael Twohig, Patrolman Luke How, Patrolman John McGonigal, Patrolman Thomas J Mahoney, Patrolman Thomas Kane, Patrolman John Dempsey, Patrolman James Keon and Constable James Quinn Family members of these men were honored guests

SWSRA Summer Registration

South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) a non-profit organization that provides recreational services for individuals with special needs, summer program registration is currently being accepted through Friday, May 28th

Find all the fun summer programs trips and special events SWSRA has to offer in the Spring Summer 2010 brochure Summer programs include Adapted Aquatics, Aquacize Bowling, Healthy Hikers, Socialites, Theater Tuesdays, Football Frenzy and four unique and fun Day Camps

Summer special events include Movies in the Park, Planetarium, Concert on the Green, End of Summer Family Picnic, and Oak Lawn Park District's Karaoke Dance SWSRA is also offering a fall trip to Starved Rock State Park

The summer brochure is displayed on SWSRA's website at www swsra com If you would like a brochure mailed to you or for more information, please contact the SWSRA office at 708-389-9423

Evergreen Park Square Dance Club

Swing'n Sugar Squares Square Dance Club of Evergreen Park, recently held graduation ceremonies for new dancers who have completed Mainstream Square Dance lessons under the instruction of Rick Allison, Caller

Evergreen Park Department of Recreation sponsors Swing'n Sugar Squares and the Club has conducted square dance lessons for an impressive and steady 28 years

The graduates will continue Plus lessons at summer workshop classes held at Evergreen Park Community Center, located at 3450 W 97th Street, on Thursday evenings starting June 3, through August 26 except July 1 The workshops are for square dancers who have completed Mainstream lessons, want to brush up on their skills, and have enjoyable evenings Lessons for new dancers begin in September More information is with John at (708)458-1880, Helen at (773)735-7638, or Hank at (773) 238-5496 On the Web see swingnsugarsquares com

First Row Graduates Sintra Olivia Dukecordier, Joy Clough, Jerry Haase, Don Sheldrake, Mary Jane McAleese, D'Arlyn Kapalczynski, Joe Serbantz, Tom Peterson, Diane Schoenbeck, Joyce Fams,

Second Row Pete Eckroth, Roy Schoenbeck (not pictured) Officers Lorraine Wirtschoreck, Alice Travnik, Darlene Kulpa, Helen Hamilton, Hank Leenstra, John Borglin, Top Row Rick Allison, Caller

US Labor Department's OSHA fines US Postal Service in Bedford Park

The U S Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has cited the U S Postal Service with three alleged willful violations at its Bedford Park, Ill, processing center The Postal Service faces a total of $210,000 in fines, for electrical and protective equipment hazards, following an OSHA inspection conducted in response to employee complaints

OSHA's inspection, which began in November 2009, found that the Postal Service failed to provide required electrical safety training for its workers, to ensure workers used safety-related work practices while working on electrical equipment, and to provide workers with appropriate personal protective equipment while working on energized equipment A willful violation is one committed with intentional, knowing or voluntary disregard for the law's requirement, or plain indifference to employee safety and health

"These sizable fines reflect the severity and ongoing nature of these hazards," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Dr David Michaels "The Postal Service ignored long-established safety standards and knowingly put its workers in harm's way"

Within the past five years, OSHA has conducted more than 900 inspections at USPS facilities across the country and has issued more than 600 citations The Bedford Park location has more than 800 employees and has received several OSHA citations during the past four years

The company has 15 business days from receipt of its citations and penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission This inspection was conducted by OSHA's Calumet City Area Office, telephone 708-891-3800 To report workplace accidents, fatalities or situations posing imminent danger to workers, call OSHA's toll-free hotline at 800-321-67-42

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees OSHA's role is to assure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance For more information, visit http //www osha gov U S Department of Labor releases are accessible on the Internet at http / / www dol gov The information in this news release will be made available in alternate format (large print, Braille, audiotape or disc) from the COAST office upon request Please specify which news release when placing your request at 202-693-7828 or TTY 202-693-7755 The Labor Department is committed to providing America 's employers and employees with easy access to understandable information on how to comply with its laws and regulations For more information, please visit http //www dol gov/compliance

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnew@sbcglobal.net

Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Greater Illinois Chapter to launch Forget Me Not Program

During the month of May the Alzheimer's Association - Greater Illinois Chapter will launch the Forget Me Not Point of Purchase Program in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs

"The Forget Me Not Point of Purchase Program is an excellent opportunity for businesses to help raise money to help fund vital community programs," said Lisa Lee, vice-president of development for the Chapter "This program offers customers from participating businesses the opportunity to make a donation to the Alzheimer's Association - Greater Illinois Chapter by purchasing a Forget Me Not pin-up Customer's can sign their names and the sponsoring location displays the Forget Me Not pin-up so that other customers can see who has participated This is a wonderful way to make a quick donation to honor those who are affected by this devastating disease"

Alzheimer's is a progressive disease that destroys brain cells and gradually destroys a person's memory and ability to learn, reason, make judgments, communicate and carry out daily activities The duration of Alzheimer's ranges from three to 20 years after symptoms are experienced Many scientists believe Alzheimer's develops over several decades before people begin showing symptoms As the Baby Boomer generation ages the rate of Alzheimer's disease will increase dramatically, in fact, in 15 years, by 2025, the number of people who have Alzheimer's in Illinois will increase 14% The Forget Me Not Point of Purchase Program will help move the Alzheimer's Association towards our vision of a world without Alzheimer's

Be on the lookout for the Alzheimer's Association – Greater Illinois Chapter's Forget Me Not Point of Purchase Program at a store near you If you would like to register your business or for more information about the program, download the informational brochure and registration form at www alz org/illinois or contact Lisa Lee at 847 933 2413 or lisa lee@alz org

About the Alzheimer's Association - The Alzheimer's Association, the world leader in Alzheimer research and support, is the largest voluntary health organization dedicated to finding prevention methods, treatments and cure for Alzheimer's Since 1980, the donor supported, nonprofit Alzheimer's Association has provided reliable information and care consultation, created supportive services for families, increased funding for dementia research, and influenced public policy changes The Greater Illinois Chapter serves dozens of counties with offices in Bloomington , Carterville, Chicago, Joliet, Rockford and Springfield For more information, call our Helpline at 800-272-3900 or visit www alz org/illinois

IRS Reaches Out to Millions of Employers on Benefits of New Health Care Tax Credit

The Internal Revenue Service this week began mailing postcards to more than four million small businesses and tax-exempt organizations to make them aware of the benefits of the recently enacted small business health care tax credit

Included in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act approved by Congress last month and signed into law by President Obama, the credit is one of the first health care reform provisions to go into effect The credit, which takes effect this year, is designed to encourage small employers to offer health insurance coverage for the first time or maintain coverage they already have

"We want to make sure small employers across the nation realize that — effective this tax year — they may be eligible for a valuable new tax credit Our postcard mailing — which is targeted at small employers — is intended to get the attention of small employers and encourage them to find out more," IRS Commissioner Doug Shulman said "We urge every small employer to take advantage of this credit if they qualify"

In general, the credit is available to small employers that pay at least half the cost of single coverage for their employees in 2010 The credit is specifically targeted to help small businesses and tax-exempt organizations that primarily employ low- and moderate-income workers

For tax years 2010 to 2013, the maximum credit is 35 percent of premiums paid by eligible small business employers and 25 percent of premiums paid by eligible employers that are tax-exempt organizations The maximum credit goes to smaller employers — those with 10 or fewer full-time equivalent (FTE) employees — paying annual average wages of $25,000 or less Because the eligibility rules are based in part on the number of FTEs, not the number of employees, businesses that use part-time help may qualify even if they employ more than 25 individuals The credit is completely phased out for employers that have 25 FTEs or more or that pay average wages of $50,000 per year or more

Eligible small businesses can claim the credit as part of the general business credit starting with the 2010 income tax return they file in 2011 For tax-exempt organizations, the IRS will provide further information on how to claim the credit

More information about the credit, including a step-by-step guide and answers to frequently asked questions, is available on the IRS Web site, IRS gov

Support the Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act

Dear Editor

On behalf of more than 5 5 million citizen-activists nationwide, the 60 Plus Association asks Congress to support the passage of H R 2057/S 3181, the "Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act"

The Right to Repair Act is a good piece of bipartisan legislation that requires automakers to provide the same service information, safety alerts and tools to independent auto repair shops, as well as to consumers, that the automaker dealership service centers receive This bill would increase competition in the auto repair industry in the United States which we believe would benefit senior consumers

Opponents of this legislation don't give consumers, especially seniors, credit They are savvy enough to shop and compare Competition keeps rates down and keeps companies on their toes - answering to consumers on technology, service and price As for the property rights concerns cited by the car companies, the bill states that their trade secrets and proprietary information will be protected

This legislation, which has attracted supporters on both sides of the aisle, is good for seniors and all consumers Times, technologies and service providers have changed, and now Congress needs to change the law so that all auto repair facilities can fairly compete for seniors' business

Please visit www righttorepair org to send a message in support of the Right to Repair Act to your congressional representatives

Sincerely,
Jim Martin
Chairman
703-807-7020

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Information on Gum Disease available on NIHSeniorHealth.gov

Good oral health is key to quality of life. When your mouth is healthy, you can eat the foods you need for good nutrition and can feel better about smiling, talking, and tanghing. However, periodontal (gum) disease—an infection of the gums and tissues that hold teeth in place—can harm oral health and is a leading cause of tooth loss among older adults. Because it's an important topic for seniors, a section on gum disease has just been added to NIHSeniorHealth.gov. It's the premier health and wellness website for older adults developed by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the National Library of Medicine (NLM), both part of the National Institutes of Health.

"The new periodontal disease section on NIHSeniorHealth.gov is an excellent source of easy-to-understand information that will help older people learn about periodontal disease and how they can prevent it," said Lawrence A. Tabak, D.D.S., Ph.D., director of NIH's National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. "Periodontal disease does not have to be a part of aging. Proper dental hygiene and regular dental visits can help people reduce their chance of developing periodontal disease as they age."

The information on gum disease can be found on the NIHSeniorHealth website at www.nihseniorhealth.gov/periodontaldisease/toc.html and also includes helpful illustrations on brushing and flossing techniques for people with less dexterity due to arthritis or other conditions.

Older Americans are increasingly turning to the Internet for health information. In fact, more than 70 percent of online seniors look for health and medical information when they go on the Web. NIHSeniorHealth (www.nihseniorhealth.gov), which is based on the latest research on cognition and aging, features short, easy-to-read segments of information that can be accessed in a number of formats, including various large-print type sizes, open-captioned videos and an audio version.

Additional topics coming soon to the site include collecting your family health history, alcohol use among older adults and long-term care.

The NIDCR is the federal government's lead agency for scientific research on oral, dental and craniofacial health and disease. For more information, visit the Web site at www.nider.nih.gov.

The NLM is the world's largest library of the health sciences and collects, organizes and makes available biomedical science information to scientists, health professionals and the public.

For more information, visit the Web site at www.nlm.nih.gov.

The NIA leads the federal effort supporting and conducting research on aging and the medical, social and behavioral issues of older people.

For more information on research and aging, go to www.nia.nih.gov.

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Moraine Valley student finishes second in state competition

A Moraine Valley Community College freshman automotive technology student has earned a second place finish in the automotive service division of the Illinois SkillsUSA Championship in Springfield, Illinois. He narrowly missed a trip to the national competition.

Charles Glassford (Lisle) finished second among 14 other college students April 16 in the state finals. Only the top finisher would advance to the national competition. Competitors qualified for this hands-on second round of the contest by passing a 100 question written exam in February, in which Glassford was the top finisher in the automotive service technology category. In Springfield Glassford had to complete challenges at 22 testing stations, each with a 15 minute time limit. Stations included testing an air conditioning system for proper pressure or leaks, checking wheel alignment, taking various engine measurements, testing and soldering wires, and bending and flaring brake lines.

Each state has a contest to determine who competes nationally. SkillsUSA is an organization for high school and college students pursuing careers in trade, technical and skilled services, including nursing, auto repair, cosmetology, and carpentry. Schools that have career programs can become members of the organization. This was the first time that Moraine Valley's Automotive Technology department has been involved in SkillsUSA.

Glassford has been preparing for the competition since September. Ira Siegel, Moraine Valley assistant professor of Automotive Technology and coordinator of the Chrysler College Automotive Program (CAP), worked with Glassford in preparation for the event.

"The competition was very intense. With only two minutes to transition to each station, Charles had to be ready to go. He feels he was very close to earning first place," Siegel said. "We'll definitely do this again next year. It was an awesome experience. This allows students to compete at a very high level. There was a lot of preparation, but it was very rewarding to see how excited and prepared Charles was. To place second in the state is incredible."

Four Moraine Valley automotive students studied for and took the written test in round one, and Siegel hopes that more students participate next year. The SkillsUSA competition not only hosts college students, but some of the best high school automotive students in the state. By participating in the event, Moraine Valley can recruit top students while developing the skills of its current students. With few competitions available to college-level auto technology students, Siegel said this event is worth all the hard work.

Share your soles of Alsip

Trinity Lutheran Church of Oak Lawn had a drive to "Clean your closets and bring in those unwanted, unused shoes" -which meant shoes of any kind or size, gently used, too small, too big and donate them to a great cause "Share Your Soles" of Alsip, Il..

Congregation members and friends brought shoes from home over a two week period. The high school Luther League group went out in the neighborhood and collected over 30 pairs in one hour. When boxing and packaging the shoes, they counted approximately 300 plus pairs.

The organization "Share Your Soles" collects shoes all year long to send them all around the world to those who do not have shoes or even "soles" to wear for feet protection. Their slogan," We can't walk in their shoes, let them walk in ours", is a way for us to share a little of ourselves.

For more information about the organization, go to their website: shareyoursouls.org. They are always looking for donations of shoes or monetary support for the cost of sending the shoes. Also they welcome volunteers to come in and get shoes ready and package them to be sent around the world.

Scholarships presented

The Italian American Women's Club recently presented their annual scholarships. The presentation was held in a private room at Barraco Restaurant in Evergreen Park.

The recipients are Frank Boyle, Evergreen Park High School who will be attending Moraine Valley Community College, Mayri Pinotti, H.P.High School, who will be attending Concordia University, Chicago.; Cortney Nichols, Joliet Jr. College; Dawn Martinez, Alsip attends Moraine Valley Community College. We wish them the best of luck in their future.

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Louis S. Viverito, Supervisor of Stickney Township announces Sertoma Hearing Screening

Stickney Township Office on Aging, 7745 S Leamington Ave in Burbank, will be hosting a Hearing Screening on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. sponsored by Sertoma

Sertoma is an international, service organization that helps speech and hearing impaired people at all stages of life from newborns to seniors. Sertoma has 32,000 members nationwide with 750 members in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Sertoma Speech and Hearing Center is a comprehensive, speech and hearing health care organization that treats approximately 13,000 patients a year at their three clinics.

To schedule an appointment for the hearing screening please call Stickney Township Office on Aging at 708 636 8850

Scholarship winners honored at Moraine Valley

Fifty nine students were recognized for their scholastic achievements at the annual academic scholarship ceremony April 28 at Moraine Valley Community College

Incoming and current Moraine Valley students were eligible to apply for a number of college and Moraine Valley Foundation scholarships while top ranked high school graduates attending the college this year were awarded Distinguished Scholar Awards. A total of 124 students earned one of 27 scholarships.

Photo Captions

College Scholarship recipients and guests from back left are Moraine Valley President Dr. Vernon O. Crawley, Arnicia Smith (Justice), Colette O'Boyle McLaughlin (Oak Lawn), Krista Meyers (Palos Park), Marivern Sobieski (Bridgeview), Samantha McNamara (Palos Hills), Byung Goo Park (Oak Lawn), Mahd Wardeh (Oak Lawn), and Alan Zakowski (Worth). Pictured in

front left are Moraine Valley board trustee Sandra Wagner, vice chair, student winners Amanda Bixman (Hickory Hills), Annamarie Gavin (Palos Park), Mariana Villaseñor Flores (Evergreen Park), Claudia Morales (Oak Lawn), Lois Musselman (Oak Lawn), and college board trustee and chairman Joseph Murphy

Moraine Valley Foundation Scholarship recipients and attendees in the back row from left are college president Dr. Vernon O. Crawley, student Carlos Duncan (Blue Island), Moraine Valley Foundation scholarship committee chairman Dennis Shannon, students Kimberly Luckett Perry (Evergreen Park), Dana Leneckis (Palos Hills), Jennifer Steigert (Crestwood), Nahed Elayyan (Bridgeview), Janice Ziyad (Chicago), Byung Goo Park (Oak Lawn), Sabina Szarek (Palos Hills), Eunyoung Lee (Palos Hills), Pamela Sorrentino (Oak Lawn), and James Parquette (Oak Lawn) In the middle row from left are Tatiana Affanikat (Oak Forest), Louis Lanos (Oak Lawn), Mariana Villaseñor Flores (Evergreen Park), and guest Marie Kaminski. In the front row from left are Foundation Board member Omar Najib, guests Joseph Marcheschi and Kathleen Mannion, college trustee vice chair Sandra Wagner, students Adriana Diego (Oak Lawn), Shannon Milota (Burbank), Marc Hernandez (Orland Park), Katie Huffman (Tinley Park), Kelli Velasquez (Alsip), Oxana Ladyaronowa Duffy (Tinley Park), Kelly Powers (Chicago Ridge), Susan Stillwell (Oak Lawn), and college board chairman Joseph Murphy. Sitting are guests Linda Marcheschi, Marguriet Bobb and Dr. Patricia Banks.

Distinguished Scholar Award recipients and guests in back row from left are college President Dr. Vernon O. Crawley, students Kari Kirk (Orland Park), Manel Segoviano (Burbank), Maureen Gabizkiewicz (Evergreen Park), Lazabeth Richardson (Chicago Ridge), Ewa Ryzewska (Oak Lawn), Wioleta Szeliga (Justice), Theodore Kulxi (Chicago Ridge), James Johnson (Burbank), and Matthew Staszel (Burbank). In the front row from left are board vice chair Sandra Wagner, students Sandra Saunders (Burbank), Stephanie O'Sullivan (Oak Lawn), Anne Catherine Lyons (Orland Hills), Hajer Brahim (Hickory Hills), Alyssa Rae Tamayo (Orland Park), Dominic Caloni (Justice), Lissette Lucero (Alsip), and board chairman Joseph Murphy

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Acorn Public Library announces Antique Appraisal Event

The Acorn Public Library will host noted local antique dealer Rex Newell on Saturday May 22 at 2 PM. If you are a fan of Antiques Roadshow, then this program is for you! Mr. Newell will appraise one hand-held item for the first 40 people who register for this event. However, Mr. Newell's programs are never anything less than wildly entertaining, and anyone is welcome to come and watch the fun.

In addition, this program will also function as the Annual Open House and Membership Drive for the Friends of the Acorn Public Library. The Friends is a group of committed library patrons who work together to support the library and its goals. Please consider joining the Friends of the Library and helping make the Acorn even better than it already is!

The Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in Oak Forest. Please call (708) 687-3700 or visit the library to register your attendance. This program is offered free to the public.

Burbank Manor Church celebrates confirmation

On Sunday, May 23rd, Burbank Manor Presbyterian Church will celebrate the Day of Pentecost with a special service of worship. The church will honor its confirmation class, who has completed a yearlong study of the Bible and written personal statements of faith.

Six young people will be confirmed as active members of the church. They are: Cody Bergeron, Joseph Castro, Michaela Hamel, Emma Karst, Kyle Spera and John Urbanski.

Morning worship begins at 10:00 A.M.. All are welcome to this service of celebration.

For more information, please visit the church website at: www.bmpcusa.com

MAY 2010 Calendar of Events

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3	4	5	6	7
10 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	11 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	12 Afternoon Matinee "Old Dogs" 1 p.m.	13 Wii Bowling 11 a.m.	14 Bingo 1 p.m.
17 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	18 Dental & Vision Workshop 10 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	19 Afternoon Matinee "Did You Hear About the Morgans?" 1 p.m.	20 Dental & Vision Workshop 9 a.m. Wii Bowling 11 a.m.	21
24 Dental & Vision Workshop 9 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	25 Dental & Vision Workshop 10 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	26 Afternoon Matinee "Bride Wars" 1 p.m.	27 Wii Bowling 11 a.m.	28 Bingo & Ice Cream Social 1 p.m.
31 Tai Chi 1 p.m.				

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St. Rita High School Students Honored at Vicariate V Youth Leadership Banquet

On Sunday, April 18th, nine students from St. Rita of Cascia High School were honored at the Seventh Annual Archdiocese of Chicago Vicariate V Youth Leadership Awards Banquet at Lexington House in Hickory Hills. The event was presided over by Most Reverend Gustavo Garcia-Siller, M.Sp.S, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago and Vicar for Vicariate V. The Youth Leadership Awards are presented to recognize a young person's active participation in the life of the Church through Parish and Catholic High School programs.

Six of the students were recognized for their involvement in campus ministry at St. Rita and the other three were honored for active participation in their local parishes. The six honored for contributions made at St. Rita were Ryan Gallagher '10 (St. Bede the Venerable), Roberto Hernandez '10 (Nativity BVM), Mark Ladd '10 (St. Gall), Ryan Mulcahy '11 (St. Michael), Kevin Popek '10 (St. Mary Star of the Sea), and Aamir Walton '11 (St. Sabina). Robert Raehl '12 was recognized for his participation at St. Symphorosa Parish and Edward Roland '13 and Joseph Ruiz '12 were both honored for their involvement at St. Walter Parish.

There were ten categories of Youth Ministry for which students throughout the Vicariate were honored. Gallagher and Popek received their awards for received their awards for Peer Ministry. Gallagher for his role as leader on a Kairos retreat and Popek for his role as a leader with the Knights of Augustine. Hernandez and Walton were honored for Community Life, for building relationships rooted in Gospel values. Ladd, Raehl, and Roland received their awards for Prayer and Worship, which means they participate in the setting of Liturgical celebrations, in roles such as Lector or Eucharistic Minister. Mulcahy received his award for Service and Social Justice, which is for teens who have shown commitment and dedication to participation in service in areas such as soup kitchens or mission trips. Ruiz was recognized for Young Adult Ministry/ Jovenes, which includes those young adults who are in leadership positions in parishes, communities, or diocesan youth programs.

Aside from the awards presentation by Bishop Gustavo, the evening also featured introductory remarks from Maria (Cooky) Perez-Iraci, Coordinator of Youth Ministry for Vicariate V, as well as portions of Witness of Faith essays that were submitted by some recipients. Walton was one of the young adults who submitted an essay. Pictured left to right: St. Rita of Cascia High School Campus Minister Bro. Jerome Sysko, O.S.A., Director of Campus Ministry Mrs. Vicki Blaszak, Kevin Popek '10 (St. Mary Star of the Sea), Ryan Gallagher '10 (St. Bede the Venerable), Mark Ladd '10 (St. Gall), Ryan Mulcahy '11 (St. Michael), Roberto Heramdez '10 (Nativity BVM), Aamir Walton '11 (St. Sabina), and President Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A.

Evergreen Park Students attend American Legion American Legion Auxiliary's Illini Girls State Orientation

On Saturday, May 22, 2010, the American Legion Auxiliary 's District Illini Girls State' Chairman, Carollee Junge, will hold an orientation for two Evergreen Park High School students selected to attend Illini Girls State, June 13-19, 2010 at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois. Students are Shannon Orogzalek and Jessica Schmitt. Illini Girls State is a practical application of Americanism and good citizenship, and it is an intense learning experience that simulates Illinois governmental procedure for girls who have completed their junior year in high school. Girls learn how a two-party system works, elect officials, introduce and pass bills, and hold mock court trials. Over 500 girls from communities throughout the State of Illinois have been selected to participate.

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beyond ordinary

Take Three Steps

by Jerry R. Haymaker

This is one experience of the many premonitions during my life. Down through the ages, many persons have had these experiences and recorded them in writing. I think that most people have had something like it happen sometime in their lives. Everyone should look at it like an opportunity that has a very short shelf life. Seize the moment!

During the summer of 1988 on Memorial Day weekend I took a ride on my Harley-Davidson to Shiller Park Forest Preserve. Because of the holiday it is especially crowded. I saw some of the regular people that would normally spend the day enjoying the outdoors there, and a lot of others I did not know.

A group of people had finished playing a game of softball nearby and I had taken advantage of the fact that someone watching had a radio with some music I enjoyed. I noticed a fight going on between two people a couple hundred feet away. It was probably over some remarks toward someone's girlfriend or other abusive behavior. As I stood gazing in the direction of the brawl I had a premonition and the message was just this: "Take three steps forward."

Knowing the wisdom of the advice, I usually get that way, and not seeing any harm in it, I did just that. I found my position directly behind a young man and noticed him looking toward the fight and down at a softball bat near his feet. He reached down and retrieved the bat. I knew he was going to use the bat to decide the brawl winner.

Most of the people in the area like to keep things peaceful so that the police don't chase everyone away. Using a bat to decide disputes is considered an unfair advantage. As the young man raised the bat to his shoulder, I reached over his shoulder and grabbed the bat and snatched it out of his hand. His surprise was evident as he looked to see me holding the bat right behind him! I explained to him that the local people didn't appreciate the use of weapons to resolve disputes.

In an angry voice while waving the bat menacingly, He backed away from me in fear. I threw the bat to the ground. A crowd of local people had witnessed all this from a nearby picnic bench. Some of them then came over to shake my hand in approval of what I had done.

I later learned that one of the guys in the brawl was Casey, the boyfriend of Janet, a woman I knew. I never explained to Casey how he almost had his head bashed in by the guy with the baseball bat.

Those other people were from the inner city. They wanted to show how tough they were to the local people. It didn't work out well because the guy that started the fight had his shoulder dislocated by the Casey. I took three steps and seized the moment. it worked out well.

Evergreen Park Farmers' Market returns in June

June 3 is opening day for the 2010 E. P. Farmers' Market. The Market will be open every Thursday 7:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. through October 28 at Yukich Field, 90th & Kedzie.

OC'S Mini-Bus available 9:40-10:00 A.M. to transport Evergreen Park residents to the Farmers' Market. Phone 422-8776 for a Mini-Bus reservation or for further information.

South Division Credit Union will sponsor FREE SHREDDING June 24 to enable residents to dispose of personal documents in a safe manner 9 A.M. - 12 Noon.

EVERGREEN PARK MINI-BUS

At 50 cents a ride, the E.P. Mini-Bus is the best deal in town. This outstanding service of the Office of Citizens' Services not only provides transportation for senior and disabled adults of Evergreen Park to medical appointments, but also includes trips to other destinations in Evergreen Park., the Plaza, banks, Aldi's, Pete's Produce, the Village Pantry, beauty and barber shops, library and Thursday morning transportation to E. P. Farmers' Market June 3 - October 28.

Please phone OC'S 422-8776 to make a bus appointment, giving at least a 24-hour notice, and up to two weeks in advance of your scheduled appointment.

Using Railroad Records in Family History Research

There will be a monthly meeting Thursday, June 3, and the topic will be "Using Railroad Records in Family History Research". Our speaker for the evening is Craig Pfannkuche.

The doors open at 6:15 P.M. and the business meeting starts promptly at 6:45 P.M. The program begins at 7:00 P.M. at the Tinley Park Public Library, 7851 Timber Drive 80th Avenue and 180th Street, Tinley Park, IL.

Vast numbers of Americans in the 19th -20th centuries were railroad employees. Many informative personnel records still exist and provide a potential treasure of family history data to researchers.

Learn about the real history of railroads in the United States and ways to access these valuable records from this dynamic and engaging speaker.

Join the monthly Genealogy group for this interesting program on how to research your family records through Railroad documentation. Guests are always welcome.

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Well, the product fits perfectly in purses, gym bags, and backpacks. Did we say backpacks? And where do you suppose you can find the best backpacks in the world? On the backs of America's troops of course! You know those amazing neighbors of ours who step up to protect us and our families here at home. Over 115,000 bottles of Biofreeze Pain Reliever has been donated for SupportOurTroops.org to send to the troops.

The troops carry at lot more on their shoulders than very heavy backpacks. When you're carrying a responsibility as big as America on your shoulders, you're bound to get sore muscles, and the relief they'll receive from a product like Biofreeze is going to be greatly appreciated.

Said Martin C. Boire, Chairman of SupportOurTroops.Org, "We have this gift thanks to the generosity of Performance Health/Hygenic Corporation in Akron, Ohio. The values of this great nation generate the patriotism that inspires people and companies to step up like this for the troops.

On behalf of the troops, we thank and commend Performance Health for their unsolicited contribution which will do a great deal of good for the well-being of front line troops.

Why, it's the people the troops protect!

SupportOurTroops.Org is a nationwide platform for individuals, organizations, businesses and non-profits to bolster America's troops and their families in a multitude of ways. Built and operated by civilians, SupportOurTroops.Org is a moral covenant with those who serve for those who protect us and our families. SupportOurTroops.Org is a resource that was not available to previous generations of troops, and now stands as a permanent living testament to the affection and loyalty good Americans hold for those who do such for all of us.

What else are we doing?

Support Our Troops's Vice President Bruce Jonas, said, "We're the license plate people. We have completed state-issuance of Support Our Troops! motor vehicle plates in some 26 states to date, and have more underway. Those plates help us do good things like this for our deployed neighbors. Sign up for your plate today. You can find out the status of the plate your state at www.SupportOurTroops.Org."

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Performing Arts Academy seeks Youth in Pursuit of Fame

The Noble Fool Theatricals Performing Arts Academy invites local teens ages 13 - 19 to audition for a role in the summer play of Fame at Pheasant Run Resort (4051 E. Main St., St. Charles, IL; admin telephone 630-443-0438). Open auditions will be held on the Preservation Hall Studio Stage at Pheasant Run on Friday, June 4, from 4:30 6:30pm or Saturday, June 5 from 1:00 3:00pm.

No appointment is necessary. Interested youth should prepare and memorize a one-minute monologue that best displays their talent. Auditionees may also be asked to do a cold reading from the script.

Everyone should bring a headshot and a resume to the audition. "Right here" is the School of Performing Arts in New York City, and the first problem for the young people eager to start paying their dues in pursuit of fame in the performing arts is to get accepted.

These applicants have nothing in common but a compelling dream and each pursues it in a special way just as each must deal with the special problems of their various lives. Like the School of Performing Arts, this play goes to the essence of young people and of theatre."

Word has begun to spread about our great musical youth ensemble program, and now we've been getting requests to add plays to our mix - shows without the focus on singing and dancing," says Education Manager and Director Tracy Whiteside of St. Charles. "It's a drama based on the screenplay with little singing and dancing, so teens can really work on their dramatic side."

The Fame summer play cast will present free performances for the public on the Mainstage at Pheasant Run on Friday, August 20 at 7pm and Saturday, August 21 at 2pm. The Noble Fool Performing Arts Academy is a non-profit organization. The academy features some of the Chicago area's most respected teachers, directors, actors and musicians.

For more information on the NFT Performing Arts Academy or for more audition information, visit www.noblefool.org/education, call 630-364-0550, or email education@noblefool.org. Noble Fool Theatricals at Pheasant Run Resort is located at 4051 E. Main St., St. Charles, IL. Additional theater information may be obtained at www.noblefool.org.

Lion King comes to the Cadillac Palace Theatre

Disney Theatrical Productions and Broadway In Chicago announced that the Chicago return engagement of Disney's THE LION KING has been extended for three additional weeks. Chicago's most eagerly awaited return engagement will once again leap onto the Cadillac Palace Theatre stage on Wednesday, September 29 for a limited engagement of nine weeks through Saturday, November 27, 2010. Tickets are now on sale.

This North American Tour is currently one of seven productions running worldwide along with New York , London , Hamburg , Tokyo, Paris, and Las Vegas

THE LION KING continues to reign as one of the most popular shows on Broadway and around the world. Now in its 13th year, THE LION KING is the eighth longest running musical in Broadway history and the first American musical to welcome 50 million guests worldwide. The global phenomenon is the winner of more than 70 major awards worldwide, including the 1998 Tony Award® and NY Drama Critics Award for Best Musical, the 1999 Grammy® for Best Musical Show Album, and the 1999 Laurence Olivier Awards for Best Choreography and Best Costume Design.

Director Julie Taymor became the first woman in Broadway history to win the Tony® Award for Best Director of a Musical. Taymor, along with Michael Curry, created hundreds of masks and puppets for THE LION KING. Choreography is by Garth Fagan, scenic design is by Richard Hudson, costume design is by Julie Taymor and lighting design is by Donald Holder. The book has been adapted by Roger Allers, who co-directed the animated film and Irene Mecchi, who co-wrote the screenplay for THE LION KING. The score features Elton John and Tim Rice's music from the animated film along with three new songs by John and Rice, additional musical material by South African Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin, Julie Taymor and Hans Zimmer.

THE LION KING will play Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 7:30PM, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8PM, Sunday evening at 6:30PM, Wednesday and Saturday matinees at 2PM, and Sunday matinees at 1PM, as well as Tuesday performances on November 16 and 23 at 7:30PM and a 2PM matinee on Friday, November 26. There will be no performance on Thursday, November 25 in observance of Thanksgiving. Ticket prices start as low as $25. Additionally, Premium Ticket Packages, which include a prime seat location, a commemorative souvenir program and an exclusive merchandise item, are also available. Beginning Friday, May 14, tickets will be available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St. and 18 W. Monroe St.); the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000; all Ticketmaster retail locations (including Hot Tix and select Carson Pirie

Pelzie (Tory O. Davis) reflects on the consequences of his involvement with the movement.

by Alan Bresloff

Equality! That is what all people have wanted since the start of time. Over the years, many plays have been written about the topic of de-segregation, not just to inform but to be entertaining at the same time. The current production at The Goodman Theatre, "The Good Negro", a powerful story of what took place in Birmingham Alabama in the 1960's, written by Tracey Scott Wilson takes us on this historical journey with a more human view of the "movement"! Ms Wilson has taken personal stories from people who were there and saw the changes to create her characters. This was a period of unrest in the South. Ministers were trying to find "The Good Negro", a person who could represent the "movement". This would be a person with education, no criminal record, a family and all the positive things that they could use to unite the blacks and whites.

In this story, a woman and her child are in a department store when the little girl needs to use the rest room. The "Colored" bathroom is out of order and Ms. Sullivan (a wonderful portrayal by Nambi E. Kelley), not wanting her 4 year old to use the alley, takes her into the "White" bathroom and gets caught. Her daughter is taken to jail. The Reverend Lawrence (played powerfully by Billy Eugene Jones) who is running the "movement" and has had many failures for not finding the right person, sees this as his opportunity to go forward in Birmingham. His cohorts are Henry Evans (deftly handled by Teagle F. Bougere) who has been with him for some time and the newly arrived Bill Rutherford (Demetrios Troy) who has been living in Europe has not experienced what the other have- the hate letters, bomb threats and even our own government spying on them. Together, with the people of all of the smaller churches plan to go forward and bring equality, not by fighting, but by logic and hitting the businesses in their pocketbooks and cash registers.

Meanwhile, while they are making their plans, the FBI knows there every move. The two agents who are involved, Steve Lane (the always reliable Mick Weber) and Paul Moore (played with just the right touch by John Hoogenakker) are also using a local bigot to infiltrate the Klan (Dan Waller truly nails this "good Ole Boy, country bumpkin to a tee).

The other two cast members are the lovely Karen Aldridge as Connie Lawrence, the always by his side wife of the Rev. Lawrence and Tory O. Davis, the husband to Claudette Sullivan, an honest hard working, non-involved man who just wants to live his life with his family. As the story progresses and the problems arise, these two people experience huge life changing moments.

The torment that the characters feel is not just from the enemies they face, but some of their problems are self inflicted. When the "Movement" leaders meet Rutherford, a man who has no knowledge of what they are going through , they find that he is there to assist them and of course they fear that he is there to steal their glory. They have failed to complete their job in other towns and that is why Rutherford is there in the first place.

In many of the Goodman productions, we are awed by the sets they build to create where we are in this produc-tion, the set by Riccardo Hernandez is simplicity at its best- a knotty pine wall with what can appear to be a cross, for the church scenes is the backdrop and only a few tables and props are used with chairs that are moved about. The wall also serves as a screen for some powerful projections (Mike Tutaj) of actual footage from many of the actual events by Photojournalist Charles Moore and others.

The sound by Ray Nardelli and Joshua Horvath and lighting by Robert Christen along with the costumes by Birgit Rattenborg Wise are the final touches to a solid production that should be on your "MUST SEE" list! We have all seen big, glitzy productions that we are awed by- this is a play that uses a story and superior acting to tell a story, that while fiction is real and an inspirational tale about people, real people, who fought for their rights. I, for one, thank you Goodman for bringing this wonderful theatrical experience to the theater audiences of Chicago.

"The Good Negro" will continue in the Albert at The Goodman located at 170 N. Dearborn through June 6th with a performance schedule as follows:

Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday matinees at 2 p.m. (except 5/20) and evenings at 7:30 p.m.

Fridays at 8 p.m.

Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (except 5/30- no evening performance)

Tickets range in price from $25 and can be purchased at the box office, by phone at 312-443-3800 or online at www.GoodmanTheatre.org

MEZZTIX are half price tickets available at the box office and online ONLY, on day of performance (subject to availability - code to use MEZZTIX) Students: each day 10 Mezzanine tickets are available at $10- limit four per student and you must have an ID (handling fees do apply)

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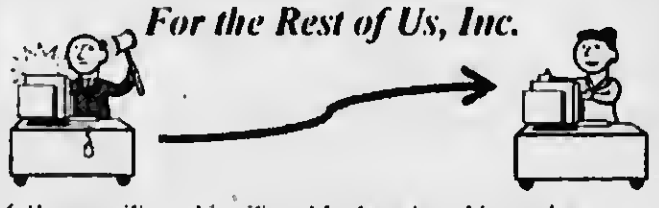

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Dianne Masters Cup Golf Outing Goes Fore the Green!

May 13, 2010, Tinley Park , IL – The Crisis Center for South Suburbia (CCSS) is accepting registrations for golfers and sponsorships for the annual golf and dinner outing on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park. This event has been renamed the "Dianne Masters Cup" in honor and memory of the late Dianne Masters, who founded the organization in 1979. Event Co-Chairs are Board members Elizabeth Mahar of New Lenox and Maureen Niswonger of Homer Glen. Corporate and individual sponsorship opportunities are available at many different price points making this a wonderful opportunity to increase name recognition. The day begins with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. on the North Course. Price per golfer is $150 and includes Continental Breakfast, Cook-Out Lunch, Refreshments on the course and Dinner with an awards presentation. There will be plenty of chances to win great prizes and participate in the silent auction, raffle and hole contests.

Proceeds from this benefit will help support the Crisis Center for South Suburbia's mission to provide emergency shelter and essential services for victims of domestic violence.

For more information or to register for the event, contact Janice L. at (708) 429-7255, ext. 126 or email her at jlaging@crisisctr.org.

Visit www.crisisctr.org for more information on the Crisis Center for South Suburbia, ways to support its mission, and the services it provides.

Recycle Your Electronics

Blue Island Public Works is hosting an "e-waste" recycling day on Saturday, June 5, 9am – 1pm.

Recycle Your Electronics...Any broken, used, or unwanted electrical or electronic appliance – except televisions – will be accepted. It is important to recycle old electronics as many contain hazardous substances and are not biodegradable. Recycling is our best option! This ensures that they are handled in a responsible manner and useful materials are returned and reinvented as new products. Call 708-597-8604 with any questions.

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Three Brother Rice Students Named Chick Evans Scholars

Three Brother Rice students have been named Chick Evans scholars and were recognized at the spring award ceremony this past weekend. Connor Healy (Evergreen Park Most Holy Redeemer), Brett Rimkus (Homer Glen – St. Cyril), and Bud Sullivan (Beverly – St. Barnabas) will be graduating in a couple weeks and all will continue their studies at the University of Illinois. According to the Chick Evans Foundation website, since the first two Scholars enrolled at Northwestern University in 1930, over 8,800 young men and women have graduated from the program. In 2009, 845 Evans Scholars are enrolled at 19 universities across the country.

Upon graduating from Brother Rice in the spring, all three will attend the University of Illinois. Healy and Sullivan intend to major in Business Administration and Rimkus will major in Advertising. Healy has played both football and rugby, and is a member of the National Honor Society. In addition to his Brother Rice activities and caddying at Ridge CC, Connor is also a Eucharistic minister at Most Holy Redeemer. "Brother Rice has superbly prepared me for life after high school," Healy said. "Thanks to my counselor and teachers, I am ready to continue onto the University of Illinois and honored to have received the Evans Scholarship." Rimkus is a caddy at Edgewood Valley and is a member of the NHS and Scholastic Bowl team, while Sullivan, a member of the Volleyball team, NHS and caddies at Beverly Country Club.

About Brother Rice

Under the direction of the Congregation of the Christian Brothers, Brother Rice High School has been educating young men since 1956. Brother Rice High School has been named a Top 50 Catholic High School in the United States by the Acton Institute five consecutive years. Since the honor roll's inception in 2004, Brother Rice is the only Catholic high school in Illinois to be named Top 50 in America all five years. Brother Rice continues to be the academic, spiritual, and athletic leader.

Register for Queen of Peace Summer Camps

Queen of Peace High School is accepting registration for its sports and art camps, which begin in mid-June at the school, 7659 S. Linder Ave. Days, dates and cost of each camp vary. Complete details and registration forms are available at www.queenofpeacehs.org.

Peace sports camps will offer girls in grades 3-12 instruction in basketball, cross country track, golf, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball. Each attendee will receive individual and team skill development and conditioning and an introduction of rules and game strategies, as well as take part in individual and group contests. Peace coaches, all of whom have multiple years of coaching experience, will lead the camps.

The art camps will give boys and girls an opportunity to work with paint, charcoal, clay, sculpture and pastels from June 14-18. The camp will be led by Peace art teacher, Mrs. Linda Vorderer, who has earned a master's degree in art from the Art Institute of Chicago.

For more information, call the school at (708) 458-7600.

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Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 10 | May 18, 2010

Oak Forest approves 911 upgrades

By
Matt Maver

The City Council at the May 11 Oak Forest City Council meeting approved the appointment of Gary Gerdes as Building Commissioner as well as a collective bargaining agreement with the Teamsters Union local 700 and the Department of Public Works. A contract with New World Systems for the upgrade of the city's enhanced 911 communications system was also approved.

Other highlights: An ordinance amending a section of the city's municipal code to decrease the number of liquor licenses regarding the sale of alcoholic beverages at the establishment at 5317 W. 159th St. Street as well as an ordinance amending a section of the municipal code to increase the number of liquor licenses for the new owner at that establishment. An ordinance amending a section of the city's municipal code to increase the number of liquor licenses at the Stop N Go Liquors at 5214 W. 159th Street was also approved.

A resolution for the work being performed on the state's right a way within the city limits was approved as well as a proclamation recognizing Frank Jerz for his volunteer services at Hines VA Hospital and the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. A proclamation recognizing Joseph Pletzke for his volunteer services at Hines VA Hospital and the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery was also approved. A request from Owen W. Winter, Jr. from the VFW Post to sell poppies within the city on Friday Sept. 10 and Saturday Sept. 11 and a request from Blue Cap Blue Island Citizens for Persons with Developmental Disabilities to solicit funds at major intersections in the city on Aug. 20 and Saturday Aug. 21 was also approved.

Chicago White Sox award the Crisis Center for South Suburbia

The Chicago White Sox Community Fund, a fund of the McCormick Foundation, presented the Crisis Center for South Suburbia with a check for $5,000 in support of its Emergency Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence.

Board officer Barbara Campbell of Palos Heights accepted the check on behalf of the Crisis Center for South Suburbia at a recent ceremony.

The Crisis Center for South Suburbia's mission is to provide emergency shelter and essential services for victims of domestic violence.

Visit www.crisisctr.org for more information on the Crisis Center for South Suburbia., ways to support its mission, and the services it provides.

City of Oak Forest e-Briefs

Exchange plants with your neighbors on May 22

Bring plants to share and pick up new ones at the free neighborhood plant exchange on Saturday, May 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City Hall gazebo. All types and sizes of plants are welcome.

The City of Oak Forest has named Gary Gerdes as its building commissioner, effective immediately.

Water conservation measures start, May - September.

Odd even sprinkling rules are in effect every year from May through September 15, 2010. Sprinkling is allowed from 7 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 11 p.m. on an odd even basis.

Veteran hiking across America is scheduled to arrive in Oak Forest on May 21.

Iraq War Veteran Trov Yocum is hiking 7,000 miles across America, banging his drum and sounding the call for $5 million to help military families in need. With Emmie the SuperDog by his side, he took the first step of his 16-month quest on April 17. Yocum is scheduled to walk through Oak Forest on Thursday, May 20. Learn how you can show your support.

Question of the Week

Are address numbers required on a home?

In an emergency situation, every minute counts. That is why the City of Oak Forest has adopted the 2003 International Property Maintenance Code, which requires all properties to have approved address numbers placed in a clear and visible position from the street in front of the property. According to the code, address numbers should contrast with their background and should be a minimum of 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inches. The numbers should also be Arabic numerals or alphabet letters. In addition, if you call 911 in an emergency and your house is difficult to locate or it has an out-of-sequence address, please let the dispatcher know so that he or she can alert emergency responders. Residents with out-of-sequence addresses should notify the Fire Department at 708-687-6050 during regular business hours so that a note can be made on the dispatch computer. To submit a question for consideration, please send an e-mail to emaher@oak-forest

Adult programs and workshops offered in Tinley Park

Are you looking for something new and different to do this summer? Expand your horizons! Take up a new hobby! Explore all the possibilities at the Tinley Park-Park District this summer! Are you interested in photography? We offer a variety of classes including digital photography so you can learn to utilize your digital camera and all of its features. If you enjoy cooking, check out the Creative Cuisine classes! Make your own jewelry, learn to sew, quilt, dance or sail, or travel downtown for a haunted "Supernatural" cruise? There's something for everyone at the Tinley Park-Park District! Details on all programs are available in the Summer brochure, which is available for downloading at www.tinleyparkdistrict.org. Or stop by the Tony Bettenhausen Recreation Center at 8125 W. 171st Street for more information. All classes are open to residents as well as non-residents of the Tinley Park-Park District. Register today! Call (708) 342-0061.

Orland Park plans Memorial Day events

The Agent Orange Quilt of Tears was at the Civic Center when The Moving Wall was at the Village in October 2009. We will also be displaying some of the memorabilia from The Moving Wall to accompany the quilt exhibit. We'll be honoring Vietnam veterans during the opening day ceremony at 7:00 pm on May 28th and we invite you to be a part of this event. We ask that you please share this announcement with any Vietnam veteran you might know who may benefit from this very meaningful display. John Rowan, National President of Vietnam Veterans of American will be guest speaker at the Village's Memorial Day ceremony on May 31st at 1:00 pm. John is coming in from his headquarters in Maryland to help us share with the community the need for additional VA benefits and long term veteran medical care.

This event is sponsored by the Village of Orland Park Veterans' Commission, Orland Park Palos VFW Post 2604 and Orland Park American Legion Memorial Post 111.

Job Fair to be held in Orland Park

Orland Township would like to invite the Orland Park business community to participate in Orland Township's first job fair on June 14, 2010 at Orland Township, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue, Orland Park, IL. The goal of Orland Township in hosting the job fair is to help displaced workers, as well as those who have recently graduated and are looking to lay the groundwork to a successful career. In an effort to help our neighbors, we would like to know if a job fair is something that your company would be interested in. The job fair is free and one table and two to three chairs will be provided. The job fair will operate from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you are interested please contact Joe McNicholas at 708-403-4222, or via email joem@orlandtwp.org.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 10 | May 18, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Worth considers costs regarding negotiations

By
Matt Mayer

At the May 4 Worth Board of Trustees meeting, a resident asked the board about rumors that the police department could be eliminated. The buzz around town is that the village is considering dissolving the police department and turning over the jurisdiction to the sheriff's police. Officials said we have to pay the bills and we will do whatever it takes to pay the bills.

No decisions have been made but officials are considering all options.

In an effort to control costs the village has offered new health plans - one is a Blue Cross Blue Shield HMO. This plan would be fully funded by the village and the village would pay $750 for each employee in an effort to assist with the co-payments.

A second plan is a Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO that would cost employees $580 per month for family coverage. The village is now asking the employees to either accept the free HMO plan along with the $750 provided by the village or pay a larger amount for the current plan. Recently employees had agreed to pay $40 to $100 per month for the PPO. Officials would like the employees to look at the entire picture which is that the village is in financial trouble. Grievances regarding changes in the health care plans were filed by the unions that represent the police department, public works employees and clerical workers against the village.

Mount Assisi's Meg Kelly Earns GCAC Honor

Mount Assisi Academy senior Meg Kelly was recently named GCAC - Girls Catholic Athletic Conference Red Division Player of the Year for softball. Hailing from Worth, Illinois, Kelly's four-year career at MAA has been outstanding, earning team MVP honors as well as GCAC All-Conference honors for four consecutive years.

Kelly has led the MAA Eagles this season with an impressive 19-5 record, and currently sports a 1.15 ERA (earned run average.) No shrinking violet at the plate, she currently owns a .536 batting average. In addition to playing softball for the past four years, she also competed on the Eagles' volleyball squad for the past two years. Kelly looks forward to attending Western Illinois University in Macomb next year, having earned an athletic scholarship for softball. She plans to major in Education.

"I have loved every minute of playing Eagle softball at MAA," Kelly stated. "It is great to play for a coach I respect and admire, along with fellow team members, especially the seniors. I will really miss Mount Assisi Academy - both the school and the athletics," she continued.

According to head MAA Softball Coach Brad Reynard, Megan Kelly has been "the face of MAA softball for the past four years."

"Megan has truly been a coach's dream when it comes to student athletes," Coach Reynard explained. "She has helped move the team up to the next level of play when it comes to facing tough competition, and has been a true play-maker - both on the mound and at the plate. We congratulate her on this recognition and wish her well at Western Illinois. She will be missed at MAA," Reynard continued.

The MAA softball Eagles begin GCAC Conference Tournament play today on their home diamond and it's no surprise that Meg Kelly will the first pitcher on the mound in the opener.

For more information about MAA Athletics, please call 630-257-7844 ext. 39 or go to www.mtassisi.org.

From left to right are Chicago Police Superintendent, Jody Weis, FOP President Mark Donahue and former Chicago Police Superintendent, Phil Cline.

Police Memorial held in Chicago

The Fraternal Order of Police Chicago Lodge #7, recently held their annual "Police Memorial Day" at its headquarters at 1412 West Washington Boulevard, Chicago.

President Donahue stated that the Memorial is held to "recognize our brothers and sisters that have died in service of the people of City of Chicago".

Those remembered at Lodge #7 Memorial included Sgt. Alan Haymaker, Officer Alejandro Valadez, Officer Michael Robbins, Sgt. Michael Twohig, Patrolman Luke How, Patrolman John McGoingal, Patrolman Thomas J. Mahoney, Patrolman Thomas Kane, Patrolman John Dempsey, Patrolman James Keon and Constable James Quinn. Family members of these men were honored guests.

Smith Village free Memory Support meeting about the ABCs of Alzheimer's

Area residents and the families of people who may be showing early signs of Alzheimer's disease are invited to attend a free program at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 25, at Smith Village, a continuing care retirement community at 2320 W. 113th Place.

Diane Morgan, the dementia care coordinator who leads the support groups at Smith Village, will open the meeting with a series of helpful guidelines on the ABC's of Alzheimer's, explaining the stages of the disease and what to expect with the diagnosis. Then she'll open the floor to questions and answers.

The 60-minute meeting designed for the adult children of seniors with memory loss challenges is free and light refreshments will be served. Please call 773-474-7300 to reserve a seat.

2010 Music Fest at the Mars Meyer American Legion Post # 991

Come and have lots of fun. Free Admission. Dates June 26, July 24, and August 28, 2010, from 7pm to 11 pm. Hot Dogs, Chips Pop, and Cash Bar available. Call 708-448-7006 for more information, or stop by 11001 Depot Street, Worth, IL.

Chicago White Sox award the Crisis Center for South Suburbia

The Chicago White Sox Community Fund, a fund of the McCormick Foundation, presented the Crisis Center for South Suburbia with a check for $5,000 in support of its Emergency Shelter for Victims of Domestic Violence.

Board officer Barbara Campbell of Palos Heights accepted the check on behalf of the Crisis Center for South Suburbia at a recent ceremony.

The Crisis Center for South Suburbia's mission is to provide emergency shelter and essential services for victims of domestic violence.

Visit www.crisisctr.org for more information.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 10 | May 18, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip approves municipal code amendments

By Matt Mayer

The village board at the May 3 Alsip Board of Trustees meetng approved an ordinance amending a chapter and article and a section of the village municipal code regarding compensation, qualifications and appointments as well as an ordinance amending a chapter an article and a section of the municipal code regarding personnel employee requirements and benefits and the employee retirement health care plan. A request to renew the village's property and casualty coverage with Scottsdale Company for $31,000 was also approved.

Other highlights the village board approved: a 3 year contract with JRK Landscaping for $43,350.00 for the first year of service, $43,680.00 for the second year of service and $45,720.00 for the third year of service. This includes seven village properties. A one-year contract with Metro Power for generator maintance at a cost not to exceed $750.00 was also approved.

A request to forward a R2 to R3 rezoning request to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the property located at 12748 S. Lacrosse was approved as well as a request to approve a memorandum of understanding with the Alsip Professional Firefighters Local 3074 was also approved.

US Labor Department seeks to distribute more than $270,000 to participants of abandoned retirement plan

The U.S. Department of Labor filed a lawsuit in federal district court in Chicago , seeking the appointment of an independent fiduciary to terminate the Intercounty Title Company of Illinois retirement savings plan and to distribute more than $270,800 in assets to plan participants and beneficiaries.

The suit alleges that the Intercounty Title Company 401(k) retirement plan was left without a named fiduciary after one of the plan's trustees died in March 2002. The Labor Department suit asks the court to appoint an independent fiduciary to administer the plan to ensure proper distribution of plan assets to eligible participants and beneficiaries.

"It is unfortunate that some plan participants have been unable to access their retirement assets," said Steve Hangen, director of the department's Chicago Regional Office of its Employee Benefits Security Administration. "We will continue to do all that we can to correct these circumstances when we learn of them."

Employers and workers can reach EBSA's Chicago office at 312-353-0900 or toll-free at 866-444-3272 for help with problems relating to private sector retirement and health plans.

In fiscal year 2009, EBSA achieved monetary results of $1.3 billion related to pension, 401(k) health and other benefits for millions of American workers and their families. Additional information can be found at http://www.dol.gov/ebsa.

From left to right are Chicago Police Superintendent, Jody Weis, FOP President Mark Donahue and former Chicago Police Superintendent, Phil Cline.

Police Memorial held in Chicago

The Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, recently held their annual "Police Memorial Day" at its headquarters at 1412 West Washington Boulevard, Chicago.

President Donahue stated that the Memorial is held to "recognize our brothers and sisters that have died in service of the people of City of Chicago."

Those remembered at Lodge #7 Memorial included Sgt. Alan Haymaker, Officer Alejandro Valadez, Officer Michael Robbins, Sgt. Michael Twohig, Patrolman Luke How, Patrolman John McGonigal, Patrolman Thomas J. Mahoney, Patrolman Thomas Kane, Patrolman John Dempsey, Patrolman James Keon and Constable James Quinn. Family members of these men were honored guests.

South West Special Recreation Day Camp Registration

South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA), a non-profit organization providing recreational services for individuals with special needs, is currently accepting Summer Day Camp registration!

SWSRA offers four day camps. General Day Camp is for individuals, ages 3 – 21, with mild to moderate disabilities. Campers will go on field trips, do arts and crafts, explore with nature, go swimming and much more! Get Up & Go Camp is for individuals, ages 18 and older, who are leaving high school or working a few days a week and want time for leisure and fun. Sportz Camp is for individuals, ages 8-13, who are looking to stay active in a variety of outdoor sports, games and activities. Fun & Fit Camp, new this year, is designed for individuals, ages 12-18, who want to get fit, stay active and learn how to live a healthy lifestyle.

SWSRA's Day Camp registration deadline is May 21. Camp Dates are as follows: Session I is June 14 – July 2, Session II is July 12 – July 30 and Session III is June 14 – July 30 (the dates of Session I and II combined). General Camp, Fun & Fit Camp and Get up and Go Camp will be held at Hazelgreen School located at 11751 S. Lawler Ave. in Alsip. Sportz Camp will be held at Summit Park District located at 5700 S. Archer. Fees, days and times may be found on the web at www.swsra.com or in SWSRA's Spring/Summer brochure. Please contact the SWSRA office at 708-389-9423 for more information.

Smith Village free meeting about Alzheimer's

Area residents and the families of people who may be showing early signs of Alzheimer's disease are invited to attend a free program at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 25, at Smith Village, a continuing care retirement community at 2320 W. 113th Place.

Diane Morgan, the dementia care coordinator who leads the support groups at Smith Village, will open the meeting with a series of helpful guidelines on the ABC's of Alzheimer's, explaining the stages of the disease and what to expect with the diagnosis. Then she'll open the floor to questions and answers.

The 60-minute meeting—designed for the adult children of seniors with memory loss challenges—is free and light refreshments will be served. Please call 773-474-7300 to reserve a seat.

For more information, call 773-474-7300 or visit our website at www.SmithVillage.org.

Thunder Over Midlothian

Come join the fun at Thunder Over Midlothian! This year's event will have fireworks, a softball game, carnival games, concessions, inflatables, a DJ and much more. Grab some friends and make a night of it. Thunder Over Midlothian will be held on Friday, June 25 at Memorial Park, at 145 Street and Sawyer Ave.[1 Block West of Kedzie Ave.] Festivities begin at 5:00 p.m. and the fireworks will be at 9:30 p.m. For more information, please call the park district at (708) 371-6191.

No, Western will not be closed, road construction begins

The Illinois Dept. of Transportation (IDOT) will be upgrading the intersections of York & Western and Vermont & Western. Work begins on May 18 and one lane will be closed. However, all Blue Island businesses will remain open as usual and there is plenty of free parking.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 36 | Number 23 | June 1, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Fire Department Babysitting Safety Course

The graduates of the Spring 2010 Oak Lawn Fire Department Babysitting Safety Course along with the class coordinator, Lt. Gary Patrick. This is a six week long class that teaches babysitting safety and first aid

Evergreen Park News Briefs

Beginning June 1, donations of used hardcover books, paperbacks, music CDs, videos, and DVDs will be accepted at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy. Please note: We cannot accept magazines, encyclopedias, or textbooks, nor can we pick up your donation.

Michigan Beach Towns

Travel lecturer, Nancy McCully guides you along the Michigan Riviera from the Illinois/Michigan border to Muskegon in her presentation, "Michigan Beach Towns" at the Evergreen Park Public Library, Wednesday, June 9 at 7:00 pm. Registration is required.

Strawberry Shortcake Social at the Evergreen Park Farmers Market

Thursday, June 10 from 10:00-11:00 am the Evergreen Park Library invites you to bring a friend and visit the EP Farmers Market at 89th & Kedzie for a taste of the sweetest June harvest – strawberries! Our library booth will be serving free Strawberry Shortcake samples, passing out strawberry recipes, and have strawberry-themed stories and crafts for children.

Printers Row Book Crawl

The Evergreen Park Public Library, invites all ages to visit the Printers Row Lit Fest on Saturday, June 12. A school bus departs EP Library at 9:30 am. Explore Printers Row Lit Fest and lunch on your own. For a full description of activities, visit www.printersrowlitfest.org. The bus will depart for the return trip to the library at 2:30 pm. Limit 40 participants. Registration along with a $5.00 fee is required.

Cool Crafts

Grades 3-5 are invited to make a sand art craft on Monday, June 14 and decorate your flip-flops on Monday, June 28 at 6:30 pm. Registration required for each day.

Book Swap at the Evergreen Park Public Library

On Wednesday, June 16 from 3:00-7:00 pm, grades 5 and under are invited to the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 S. Troy to bring in their gently-used children's books (in good condition) and trade them with other kids.

For more information and details call or stop in at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy, or call (708) 422-8522.

Jazzin' at the Shedd Grooves into a new night this summer

Starting June 23, Shedd Aquarium's 16th annual summer concert series Jazzin' at the Shedd fills Wednesday nights with the magical sounds of Chicago's favorite musicians. Debuting on a new night, Jazzin' at the Shedd coincides with Chicago's regular fireworks display over Lake Michigan, transforming Shedd's lakefront North Terrace into a front row seat for the show – both the fireworks and music.

While enjoying the music and the view, guests at Jazzin' at the Shedd visit Shedd's original galleries, stop by the sharks in Wild Reef, explore the North and South Poles with the penguins in Polar Play Zone and get a glimpse of the five-month-old beluga whale calf in the Oceanarium.

During Jazzin' at the Shedd, the Oceanarium, Wild Reef and Polar Play Zone are open till 8 p.m. and the original galleries are open till 10 p.m. Tickets are $12 for adults and $10 for children (ages 3 to 11). See the Oceanarium and Polar Play Zone for only $6 more. Engage the senses like never before with a show at Shedd's 4-D FX Theater, including the new "Happy Feet 4-D" feature, for an additional $1. Food and beverages are available for purchase. For more information about Jazzin' at the Shedd, please call (312) 692-3373 or visit www.sheddaquarium.org.

The performance dates are as follows:

June 23 - Peter Van Nuis
June 30 - Detour Jazfunk
July 7 - Chicago OGD
July 14 - Tim Fitzgerald Quartet
July 21 - Lake Effect
July 28 - Bill Borts-
August 4 - Detour Jazfunk
August 11 - Greg Duncan
August 18 - Chicago OGD
August 25 - Peter Van Nuis
September 1 - Detour Jazfunk

Free Windy City Thunderbolts ticket

Southside student-athletes have an opportunity to get a convenient physical examination and receive a free ticket to a 2010 season Windy City Thunderbolts game (while supplies last). The complete exams are provided by experienced Metro South Medical Center family practice physicians (in conjunction with SportLinkUSA) and fulfill school requirements for student-athlete physicals. Appointments can be made at any of the eighteen school locations by visiting www.sportlinkusa.com.

The student physicals cost $39.99, are covered by most insurance companies and conveniently scheduled throughout the Southland.

July 22 - Marist High School, Chicago, beginning at 10a.m.
July 29 - Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, beginning at 7 p.m.
Aug 10 - Mother McAuley High School, Chicago, beginning at 2 p.m.
Aug 12 - Arbor Park Middle School, Oak Forest, beginning at 4 p.m.
Aug 25 - Central Middle School, Tinley Park, beginning at 11:15 a.m.

His Ivy League Dream Comes True

Thomas F. March the senior Class President at Oak Lawn High School has a been accepted at Brown University, one of the eight Ivy League Universities.

Founded in 1764 [before the birth of our country], Brown University is the seventh oldest college in America and is a private Ivy League University located in Providence, just South of Boston. Recently ranked 16th by U.S. News & World Report, it's considered to be one of the elite academic institutions in our nation. This leading university is one of the most selective school's in the nation for this year a historic 30,000 students applied for the 1485 available openings. Brown students and alumni earn admission to law school and medical school and medical school at a rate significantly higher than the national average.

Back in 2008 the Village View Newspaper printed an article about how March was accepted into the Harvard Summer School program as just a high school sophomore. "Ever since that amazing experience I have dressed of attending one of the Ivy League Universities. And now the results of my diligence have come to fruition", stated March.

Brown University has been often mentioned in the entertainment media recently for example, the current hit television series "OC" as well as the Family Guy and the Simpson's. Demi Moore and Bruce Willie's daughter attends Brown as does Emma Watson who plays Harmione in the successful Harry Potter movies. Famous alumni include Bill Wirtz [owner of the Black Hawks], billionaires - Ted Turner and John D. Rockefeller Jr. and John F. Kennedy Jr., amongst numerous world leaders in government, business, and medicine.

Thomas March also previously attended Simmons Middle School and St. Gerald Catholic School. He is the son of Wanda & Frank March in Oak Lawn, IL.

Alzheimer's Disease to cost U.S. $20 Trillion over the next 40 years

A new report from the Alzheimer's Association "Changing the Trajectory of Alzheimer's Disease A National Imperative" shows that in the absence of disease-modifying treatments, the cumulative costs of care for people with Alzheimer's from 2010 to 2050 will exceed $20 trillion, in today's dollars The report, which examines the current trajectory of Alzheimer's based on a model developed by the Lewin Group for the Alzheimer's Association, also shows that the number of Americans age 65 and older who have this condition will increase from the 5 1 million today to 13 5 million by mid-century

"We know that Alzheimer's disease is not just 'a little memory loss'- it is a national crisis that grows worse by the day," said Harry Johns, President and CEO of the Alzheimer's Association "Alzheimer's not only poses a significant threat to millions of families, but also drives tremendous costs for government programs like Medicare and Medicaid"

Total costs of care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease by all payers will soar from $172 billion in 2010 to more than $1 trillion in 2050, with Medicare costs increasing more than 600 percent, from $88 billion today to $627 billion in 2050 During the same time period, Medicaid costs will soar 400 percent, from $34 billion to $178 billion One factor driving the exploding costs by 2050 is that nearly half (48 percent) of the projected 13 5 million people with Alzheimer's will be in the severe stage of the disease when more expensive, intensive around-the-clock care is often necessary

Changing the Current Trajectory

The new report is not all bad news, however, as it shows that Medicare and Medicaid can achieve dramatic savings – and lives could be significantly improved - with even incremental treatment improvements Based on the same Lewin Group model, the report explores two alternate scenarios one in which a disease-modifying treatment could delay the onset of Alzheimer's by five years, and another in which a hypothetical treatment could slow the progression of this condition

"Today, there are no treatments that can prevent, delay, slow or stop the progression of Alzheimer's disease," said Johns "While the ultimate goal is a treatment that can completely prevent or cure Alzheimer's, we can now see that even modest improvements can have a huge impact"

Impact of a Hypothetical Treatment Delaying Onset A treatment breakthrough that delays the onset of Alzheimer's by five years – similar, perhaps, to the effect of anti-cholesterol drugs on preventing heart disease – would result in an immediate and long-lasting reduction in the number of Americans with this condition and the cost of their care A breakthrough that delays onset by five years and begins to show its effect in 2015 would decrease the total number of Americans age 65 and older with Alzheimer's from 5 6 million to 4 million in 2020

Assuming the breakthrough occurred in 2015 The number of people age 65 and older with Alzheimer's would be reduced by 5 8 million in 2050 – 43% of the 13 5 million Americans who would have been expected to have the condition in that year would be free of the conditions In 2050 the number of people in the severe stage would also be much smaller with the treatment breakthrough – 3 5 million instead of the expected 6 5 million Annual Medicare savings compared to current trends would be $33 billion in 2020 and climb to $283 billion by mid-century, while annual Medicaid savings would increase from $9 billion in 2020 to $79 billion in 2050

Impact of Hypothetical Treatment Slowing Progression A treatment breakthrough that slowed disease progression – much as we have managed to do with HIV AIDS and several cancers - would result in far fewer people with Alzheimer's disease in 2050 in the severe stage when care demands and costs are greatest Assuming the breakthrough occurred in 2015 In 2020, the number of people age 65 and older with Alzheimer's disease in the severe stage would drop from 2 4 million to 1 1 million In 2050, the number of people in the severe stage would decline from an expected 6 5 million to 1 2 million

Annual Medicare savings compared to current trends would be $20 billion in 2020 and jump to $118 billion in 2050, while Medicaid savings would be $14 billion in 2020 and $62 billion in 2050

Addressing the Chronic Underinvestment in Research

Ultimately solving the Alzheimer crisis will mean addressing the chronic underinvestment in research This forecast of a rapidly aging population and dramatic rise in the number of Alzheimer cases in the coming years should catapult the government into action

"Given the magnitude and the impact of this disease, the government's response to this burgeoning crisis has been stunningly neglectful" said Johns "Alzheimer's is an unfolding natural disaster The federal government has sent a token response and has no plan Immediate and substantial research investments are required to avoid an even more disastrous future for American families and already overwhelmed state and federal budgets." continued Johns For the human effects and the country's fiscal future we must change the trajectory of the Alzheimer crisis"

"The impact of Alzheimer's disease - both in terms of lives affected and costs of care - is staggering As government leaders contend with the best approaches to rein in Medicare and Medicaid costs, we know Alzheimer's will place a massive strain on an already overburdened health care system," said Robert J Egge, Vice President of Public Policy for the Alzheimer's Association "This report highlights that while we strive for the ideal – a treatment that completely prevents or cures Alzheimer's disease - even more modest, disease-modifying treatments would provide substantial benefits to families and contribute to the solvency of Medicare and Medicaid"

The Association is working to enact critical legislation to address these issues The National Alzheimer's Project Act creates a National Alzheimer's Project Office and an interagency Advisory Council responsible for developing a national plan to overcome the Alzheimer crisis Drawing on the expertise residing in various government agencies as well as individuals living with the disease, caregivers, providers and other stakeholders, this office would provide strategic planning and coordination for the fight against Alzheimer's across the federal government as a whole, touching on a broad array of issues from research to care to support

The full text of the Alzheimer's Association's "Changing the Trajectory of Alzheimer's Disease A National Imperative" can be viewed at www.alz.org/trajectory

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
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Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Assessor Toscas announces appeal assistance for Worth Township Homeowners

Worth Township Assessor John Z Toscas announced that the Cook County Board of Review is open for filing Appeals of the 2009 Real Estate Assessment for all homeowners in Worth Township The Board of Review filing dates are through June 21, 2010 Assessor Toscas' staff will assist all Worth Township homeowners with filing a 2009 Real Estate Assessed Valuation Complaint and research comparable properties

All Worth Township homeowners are invited to come to Assessor Toscas' office at 11601 S Pulaski, Alsip and the staff will assist in the preparation and filing of the complaint to try to reduce the assessment Homeowners just need to bring in their Property Identification Number (PIN) The deadline for filing the complaint in Assessor Toscas' office is Friday, June 11, 2010 BY 4 30 p m Contact Assessor John Z Toscas (708) 371-2900 for more information

Lipinski introduces new bill regarding Annual Cost Increases to Seniors

Today, Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-3) announced the introduction of the CPI for Seniors Act, H R 5305, which creates a new inflation index that would accurately measure the cost increases faced by older Americans

This year, Social Security recipients did not receive a cost-of-living increase due to the fact that the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) indicated costs did not rise last year But as its name suggests, that index was designed to measure the inflation experienced by urban wage earners, not seniors, who spend a higher percentage of their income on items such as health care, the cost of which continues to rise rapidly The CPI for Seniors Act directs the Bureau of Labor Statistics to develop a new price index that accounts for seniors' actual costs The result will be a more accurate understanding of the economic reality experienced by retirees

"Despite the fact that the Bureau of Labor Statistics said there was no inflation last year, numerous Third District seniors I've spoken with have made it clear their cost of living kept rising," Congressman Lipinski said "The problem may be that the index used to measure inflation was created to reflect the costs faced by people who are younger and are working, not retirees Seniors spend more money on some items and less on others For example, seniors generally require more medical care, and given that health care and prescription drug costs continue to soar, many older Americans are finding themselves in a bind"

The CPI-W assumes that medical spending accounts for just over 5 percent of consumers' expenditures Yet one recent study found that among households with Medicare recipients, health care accounts for more than 14 percent of total spending Older Americans are also more likely to be homeowners, which exposes them to different costs and budgetary pressures

"The CPI for Seniors Act is part of my commitment to defending the interests of Third District seniors and honoring the tremendous contributions they have made to our nation," Congressman Lipinski said "If we're going to do right by our seniors, we need to accurately measure their cost of living so that we have a better understanding of the economic reality they face This will allow us to appropriately care for the needs of seniors"

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Stickney Township Hearing Screening

Stickney Township Office on Aging, 7745 S Leamington Ave in Burbank, will be hosting a Hearing Screening on Wednesday June 2, 2010 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. sponsored by Sertoma.

Sertoma is an international, service organization that helps speech and hearing impaired people at all stages of life from newborns to seniors. Sertoma has 32,000 members nationwide with 750 members in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Sertoma Speech and Hearing Center is a comprehensive, speech and hearing health-care organization that treats approximately 13,000 patients a year at their three clinics. To schedule an appointment for the hearing screening please call Stickney Township Office on Aging at 708-630-8850.

Oak Lawn Senior Happenings

On Monday June 21st at 10:00 a.m. the Double Nickel Chorus of Evergreen Park will entertain at the Senior Center 5330 West 95 Street. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program.

Thursday, June 24th is Box Lunch Day. The sponsor of the month will be Sports and Ortho Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine located at 9001 Southwest Highway. They are a community-based clinic serving the Oak Lawn, Beverly, Bridgeport and Gold Coast neighborhoods. They have a unique style of physical therapy that incorporates manual-based treatment with aggressive exercise.

The must see presentation begins at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch and bingo. The cost is $3.50 and tickets may be purchased at the Oak Lawn Senior Center 5330 West 95th Street. Seating is limited.

Every Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. movies are shown at the Senior Center. If you wish to watch the movie closed captioned at 10:30 a.m. please call the Center at (708) 499-02-40.

The movies to be shown in June are: June 1st - Blind Side, June 8th - Did You Hear About the Morgans, June 15th - Up in the Air, June 22nd - Leap Year, June 29th - It's Complicated. Come join us for a delightful afternoon of fun and social time.

Volunteers Needed for Special Day for Special People

The Orland Park Lions Club will hold its annual Orland Days Celebration June 2 through June 6 at the 153rd Street Commuter Station in Orland Park.

A highlight of the five day festival is Norm Meyer Special Day for Special People. This by-invitation only free carnival day for individuals with special needs will be held Thursday, June 3 from 8:30 a.m. until 1:45 p.m. Special Day is co-hosted by the Village of Orland Park Recreation Department, the Orland Park Lions Club and North American Midway Entertainment.

Volunteers are needed to help individuals on and off carnival rides and to distribute lunches. Interested adults may call the Village of Orland Park Recreation Department at (708) 403-7275 to be added to the list of volunteers. All volunteers are asked to attend an orientation meeting in the large tent on the carnival grounds on Thursday, June 3 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Fun Fest 2010 in Alsip

Alsip Park District will be holding Annual Fun Fest on Saturday June 19, 2010 at 4h Park Aquatic Park on 119th and Kostner Avenue, Alsip, IL from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. There will be a band, children's games, pool activities, fireworks and open swim. Enjoy an afternoon of free swimming. There will also be a Chili Cook-off and starts at 11 a.m. All chili must be cooked on site. Children must be supervised. Entry will be cut off when capacity of the facility is met. Call at 708-389-1013 for more information. www.alsipparks.org

Farmer's Market returns to Orland Park

The Village of Orland Park Farmers' Market will open its ninth season on Friday, June 4 at 7:30 a.m. on the grounds of the Village Center, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. Over 30 vendors will be selling fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and plants, gourmet food items, oils, bakery goods, crafts, jewelry, baskets, doggie biscuits, household and personal items, sunglasses, purses and more. Farmer Frank's barbecue lunches featuring hot dogs, hamburgers and cheeseburgers, brats and chicken sandwiches along with a bag of chips, a drink and a cookie are available to purchase at a nominal price through mid-August. Several community organizations sponsor the weekly lunches. Proceeds from the lunches benefit these community organizations. This year's sponsors include the Open Lands of Orland Park, American Legion, VFW and Susan G. Komen For the Cure. Kids will be able to enjoy the free moon jump, balloons and the Orland Park Library Story Time. The village's "Green Tent" will have information on how you can help the environment within your community. There will be information on Village "green" activities and craft projects. The market will be open every Friday (except August 6) rain or shine from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 4 through October 1, 2010. For more information, please call (708) 403-6140.

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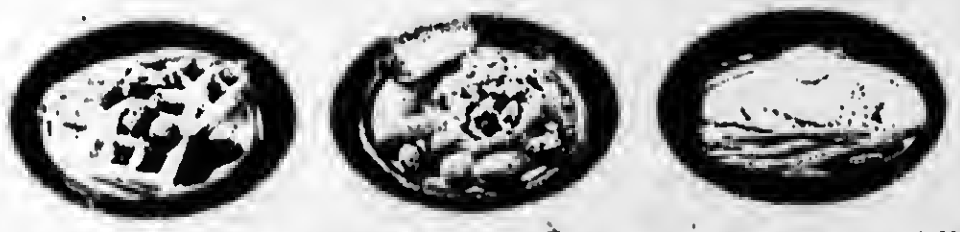
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Oak Lawn Public Library

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will hold their third Annual Oak Lawn Artists Group Show during June and July 2010. There will be a special "Meet the Oak Lawn Artists" event featuring live music and light refreshments on Saturday, June 5 from 1-2:30 p.m. in the gallery area. Everyone is welcome to attend.

During this two-month exhibition, community members are invited to visit the library's second floor Public Art Gallery to view dozens of original paintings, drawings, and photographs created by 24 Oak Lawn artists, including Linda Atkins, Nancy Canellis, Nancy Carley, Richard Corkin, Karin Rae Cox, Debra Garelli, Jenny Gembala, Marissa Golaszewski, Brigit Goudge, Jim Guenther, Julie Heck, Virginia Jachna, Henry P. Keane, Michael C. King, Lawrence D. Kuhn, Dan Lineham, Joshua Lopatin, Robert Mayer, Bridget Mitchell, Aurora Patara, Edward Pluska, Jan Strumpf, Theresa Strumpf and Ronald Williams.

Artists living in and around Oak Lawn who wish to participate in future art shows may pick up an Art Gallery application at the library's Reception Booth.

The Oak Lawn Public Library Youth Services Department sponsors three summer reading programs for young Oak Lawn residents and students of Oak Lawn schools from birth through eighth grade. Registration begins Tuesday, June 1 and the program ends Saturday, July 31. A library card is required to register at the Youth Services' Desk.

In "Read to Me," parents and caregivers are asked to read 25 books to infants up to age two. Upon completion, participants will receive a free board book.

Children in preschool through fifth grade who are Oak Lawn residents or students of Oak Lawn schools, can enroll in "Make a Splash READ." Young reading club members track how much time they read, with a goal of 18 hours. Prizes are awarded each time a participant reaches three hours, up to a limit of six prizes. Members read to win small toys, coupons and treats from local businesses, subject to availability. A multitude of activities are open to reading club members, including weekly brown bag lunch storytimes, outdoor water sports, competitions, contests, movie viewings, craft events, and a variety of theme parties.

Students entering sixth through eighth grade, who are Oak Lawn residents or students of Oak Lawn schools, are invited to join the "Make Waves" program. Members keep track of how much time they spend reading, with a goal of 18 hours. Prizes are awarded for every three hours recorded, up to a limit of six prizes. Members read to win coupons, gift certificates and treats from local businesses, subject to availability. Registered members may participate in many fun activities including weekly movie screenings and trivia contests, a video game event featuring Wii and Guitar Hero III, improv games, a flip flop decorating workshop, a spa party, a junior volunteer group, and Book Buddies, a program offering young adults the opportunity to read one-on-one to younger children while earning service hours.

All young summer reading club participants are invited to attend a BMX bike performance by three-time X-Games Medalist Matt Wilhelm and a special presentation featuring live reptiles and amphibians.

Please be advised that many activities have age restrictions and several have limited enrollment, so early registration is recommended. Additional rules and restrictions may apply.

High school students and adult Oak Lawn residents are invited to enroll in the Oak Lawn Public Library's annual summer reading program, which runs Monday, June 1 through Friday, July 31. Register at the first floor Help Desk. The first 100 members to sign up will receive a colorful beach bag.

Participants are asked to read, listen to or view any combination of 10 books, music CDs, audio books or movies. Upon completion, members will receive a special prize and a chance to win one of the grand prizes at the end of July. This year's goodies include a flip video camcorder, tickets to a Chicago first-run theater production, a luncheon cruise on Lake Michigan, a $50 gift certificate to Palermo's restaurant, and a Sid's Greenhouse garden gift basket for adults. Participants who go beyond the original goal will get entries into weekly prize drawings.

First and second year high school students are eligible to take part in summer reading activities offered by the Youth Services Department. For additional information, call 708-422-4990, or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Oak Lawn Garden Club Enhances Library Landscape

Eight members of the Oak Lawn Garden Club recently donated their time and "green thumbs" to plant flowers on the grounds of the Oak Lawn Public Library. Standing (left-right) Patricia Mentzel, Barb Stratman, Florence Borbolshak, Mariann Prendergast, June Curtis (President), Fran Mittler, Marilyn McDonald, Rose Bennett.

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Orland Township Assessor Hosts Cook County Board of Review Outreach Program

Orland Township Assessor Rich T. Kelly is hosting a Cook County Board of Review Outreach Program, presented by Commissioner Brendan Houlihan, on Tuesday, June 1, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Orland Township Activity Center, 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue in Orland Park. The sole requirement for a review of property assessment is to complete and file an appeal form from the Board of Review by the township filing deadline of June 21, 2010.

The presentation will explain how to file an appeal and how an appeal is granted. Residents should bring their property tax bills in order to more effectively file an appeal, should they feel their residence is overvalued. After a short presentation, Commissioner Houlihan and staff from the Board of Review will be on hand to answer questions and help fill out appeal forms. For additional information please call 708-403-4222.

Orland Park Recreation Department announces summer schedule

The Orland Park Recreation and Parks Department's Attack Beach Volleyball Camp includes the latest drills and techniques needed to build passing, setting and spiking skills. Two grade specific sessions will be held Monday through Thursday. June 28 to July 1. Third to fifth graders will meet from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. with sixth to eighth graders meeting from 11:15 a.m. until 1:15 p.m.

The Chicago Bulls Summer Camp is being offered at the Village of Orland Park Sportsplex. A grass roots approach to nurturing a lifelong love for the great game of basketball, this camp addresses basic and advanced skills. Essentials covered include ball handling, shooting, rebounding, individual moves, foot work and team concepts. Open to those age five to twelve, the camp will meet Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. July 19 to July 23.

Previous experience is not required for the Orland Park Recreation Department's LaCrosse Camp offered July 19 to July 22 at Centennial Park. Participants will learn passing, catching and shooting with instruction provided by the Chiefs Youth LaCrosse Club. Three age specific sessions are available with those in third through fifth grade meeting at 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Sixth through eighth graders will meet from 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. and those in high school will meet from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Each session is limited to twenty participants. Skyhawks Tennis with Quickstart equipment is an exciting new play format for learning tennis. Quickstart brings kids into the game by utilizing specialized equipment, shorter court dimensions and modified scoring. Offered for children age four to eight, the camp will be held June 28 through July 2, Monday through Friday from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The Orland Park Recreation Department's Dodge Ball Camp will be held July 5 through July 9. This fun-filled camp includes the rules, skills and strategies of dodge ball. Each session is limited to twenty participants with six to eight year olds gathering from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Those age nine to eleven meet at 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Dodge Ball Camp is held at the village's Sportsplex, 11351 West 159th Street.

Skyhawks Basketball Camp teaches fundamental skills that all athletes, regardless of skill level, needed to succeed. Open to participants age seven to fourteen, the camp includes game speed drills and exercises focusing on ball handling, passing, shooting, defense and rebounding. The summer session, held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., will be offered July 12 to July 16.

Skyhawks Skateboarding will be directed by instructors from the Skyhawks Sports Academy. The beginner program, for those age five to nine, will focus on basic skateboarding instruction with an emphasis on balance, pushing the board, kick turns, maneuvering and manual. Participants in the beginner-intermediate level, age eight to twelve, will learn ollies, shut-its, kick flips, board slides and grinds on flatland, transitions and rails. Both levels will meet at different times at Orland Park's Grinding Edge Skate Park, July 19 to July 23. Further information is available by calling the Orland Park Recreation Department at (708) 615-PLAY.

Festivals. Carnivals. Parades. Fireworks Shows and 4th of July Celebrations.
Call Linda for special advertising rates at 312-624-8996.

June 2010 Calendar of Events

7945 S. Harlem Ave., Burbank, IL 60459
For more information, please call: 708-430-9504

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	2 Movie & Popcorn "Everybody's Fine" 1 p.m.	3 Wii Bowling 11 a.m.	4 Celebrating June Birthdays! 12:30 p.m.
7 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	8 Dental Insurance Seminar 9:30 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	9 Movie & Popcorn "Chicago" 1 p.m.	10 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	11 Let's Play Bingo! 1 p.m.
14 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	15 Dental Insurance Seminar 10 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	16 Movie & Popcorn "New in Town" 1 p.m.	17 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	18 "Honoring all dads with relaxing massages" 12:30 p.m.
21 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	22 Dental Insurance Seminar 10 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	23 Movie & Popcorn "Mamma Mia" 1 p.m.	24 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m. Dental Insurance Seminar 2 p.m.	25 Let's Play Bingo! 1 p.m.
28 Dental Insurance Seminar 9 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	29 Dental Insurance Seminar 10 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	30 Movie & Popcorn "500 Days of Summer" 1 p.m.		

HUMANA

Golf Classic Benefits for Advocate Hope Children's Hospital

Hearts for Hope will host their annual Golf Classic on Wednesday, June 2 at Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park, IL. This premier fundraising event will benefit the Pediatric Cardiology Research Program at Advocate Hope Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn, IL.

The cost to play 18 holes is $225 for an individual and $900 a foursome. There is also a 9-hole package with "rolling hills tee times" offered at $125 for an individual and $500 for a foursome. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. This day of golf will include a continental breakfast, lunch, beverages on the course, cocktails and dinner, a donation to Hope and chances to win incredible raffles & auctions.

There are a wide variety of sponsorship opportunities and an option for non-players to join the group for cocktails and dinner at a cost of $70 per person.

For more information or to register for golf or the dinner, contact Sarah Nassiu, manager of development at 708-684-5231. You may also register online at www.advocatehealth.com/hopegolf10. To learn more about the Hearts for Hope charity organization, visit www.hearts-for-hope.org.

About Hearts for Hope

Hearts for Hope is a volunteer group comprised of grateful parents, concerned families and caring community members dedicated to: Making positive impacts on the lives of patients and families at Advocate Hope Children's Hospital through hands-on volunteering and involvement at the hospital; Supporting specific medical and non-medical needs throughout Hope by raising funds and awareness through philanthropic events and activities; Helping create a child-centered environment of compassion, comfort and healing inside the doors of Hope.

Worth Public Library

Beginning on Saturday, June 5th the Worth Public Library will be giving away free lawn passes to select performances at Ravinia. The passes are available to Worth residents only. Residents may select one date per visit, one visit per day. Dates are available at Worth Public Library and on the Internet at www.worthlibrary.com/ravinia2011.htm. The Worth Public Library is located at 6917 w. 111th Street, Worth, IL.

Abdullah to address Stickney Township Seniors

Aska Abdullah, an official for Eugene Moore, Cook County Recorder of Deeds, will speak before the Stickney Township Seniors, Wednesday, June 9 at 10 a.m. in the Louis Viverito Senior Center, 7745 S. Leamington, Burbank.

Kellie Dillon, coordinator announced Abdullah will explain the workings of the Recorder of Deeds Office along with Home Repair Fraud and Reverse Mortgages.

In his position, Aska is responsible for marketing the office to the general public and professional market sector. He circulates press releases concerning issues and accomplishments of the office and represents the office and Recorder of Deeds at public forums. He received his Jurist Doctor Jurisprudence from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan.

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June 2010 Calendar of Events

7945 S. Harlem Ave., Burbank, IL 60459
For more information, please call: 708-430-9504

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	2 Movie & Popcorn "Everybody's Fine" 1 p.m.	3 Wii Bowling 11 a.m.	4 Celebrating June Birthdays! 12:30 p.m.
7 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	8 Dental Insurance Seminar 9:30 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	9 Movie & Popcorn "Chicago" 1 p.m.	10 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	11 Let's Play Bingo! 1 p.m.
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Worth Township offers a variety of activites for seniors

The Worth Township Senior Oil Painting Class will be starting again on June 11, 2010. The classes are held on Fridays from 9:00am to 12:00 noon at the Worth Township Center, 11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip. The class will run for 12 weeks and there will be a nominal fee. To register for the class, please call (708) 371-2900 Ext 28.

The Worth Township Seniors will be offering Rules of the Road review class on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at the Worth Township Center, 11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM. Please register by calling (708) 371-2900 , Ext. 28 and you must be a Worth Township resident to attend.

The Worth Township Seniors will be sponsoring a 55 Alive Review Course on Wed. June 23rd & Thurs. June 24th 2010 you must do both days. It will be at the Worth Township Center, 11601 S. Pulaski from 9:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. The fee is $12.00 for AARP members and $14.00 for Non AARP members. You will be asked to show your membership card at class. Payment payable to AARP. The class is open to seniors 50 years and older and you will receive a certificate that may entitle you to a reduction in your auto insurance after completing both days of classes. Please call (708) 371-2900, Ext 28 to register.

Blue Island Fest is back

The FEST is back! Join us at Blue Island Park District Memorial Park at 12804 South Highland Ave. for 5 fun-filled days June 23 to June 27, 2010. Carnival, Multi-stage Entertainment, with Infinity, American English, Harbingers Ball, 80s Enough, Soda Jerks Johnny & Coax, Dead Town Revival, Textbook Committee, Blue Idol Competition & more!

Children Event, Reptile Show, Build-an-Instrument & Learn to Play, Pony Rides, Face Painting, Fireworks, Beer Garden, Bingo, Food Vendors, Craft Vendors, Chicago's 100.3 & a Classic Car Show! For more information, about being a vendor or a sponsor call 708-388-6421.

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Speaker Presentation June 2nd at 11:00 a.m.
Michael D. Berry R. Ph. of Alliance Pharmacy Services Presents
"Coming to Terms with Dementia. Window of Opportunity"
Insights on the cutting edge of dementia treatments
Refreshments will be served

Cooking Demonstration June 9th at 11:00 a.m.
Join Chef Dennis for a cooking demonstration and enjoy a "Taste of Smith Village"

Showcase of Homes June 17th at 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Four Independent Living resident's apartments and one model apartments.
Refreshments will be served and enter to win fun prizes in our raffle!

RSVP to 773-474-7300 or info@smithvillage.org
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TICKETS

JUNE 3RD THRU JUNE 6TH

7240 West 57th Street • Summit

Thursday, June 3	5:00pm - 11:00pm	Saturday, June 5	2:00pm - 12:00am
Friday, June 4	5:00pm - 12:00am	Sunday, June 6	2:00pm - 10:00pm

Entertainment

Thursday, June 3	8:00 p.m.	Caliente
Friday, June 4	6:00 p.m.	Four Alarm
	9:00 p.m.	Maggie Speaks
Saturday, June 5	3:00 p.m.	World's Honkiest Polka Band
	6:00 p.m.	Myth
	9:00 p.m.	ARRA
Sunday, June 6	4:00 p.m.	Yard Fulla Cars
	7:00 p.m.	Mike & Joe

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Unlimited Rides for all 4 days
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Saturday 2:00pm - 6:00pm &
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beyond ordinary

Two Steps to Far

By: J.R. Haymaker

I had gone down to Sheridan road to go to lunch with someone but had to kill some time as I was early. I stopped in a pub for a brew. The place was empty of any other patrons so when I had finished my glass I thought I should stop at the place across the street.

I walked out the door and across the sidewalk to the curb and glanced at all the traffic. I happened to notice a gap in the traffic in the curb lane because a semi-truck was approaching about thirty feet away. I looked down at the curb to see a small boy about three years old walk past me a few steps onto the street. I knew I didn't have much time. As I leaned toward the street I glanced toward the truck and it was about ten feet away by now. I lunged toward the boy shoving my arms out as fast as I could and grabbed him around the waist. I didn't want to break his neck flinging him back to the curb but retrieved him as quickly as I could while stepping backward. Just as we cleared the street the truck was rolling by about thirty miles and hour. The wind from it was just like when a train in the subway goes by inches away. I never heard his brakes and he didn't slow down. I turned and held the boy out knowing the parents would be there.

A man and a woman were there and the woman rushed forward to embrace her child clearly emotional from almost loosing her son. The man started reaching for his wallet and I told him he did not have to do that. He insisted and looked in his wallet for some money. He had $15.00 when I knew I had $80.00 in my pocket and I thought it was stupid. No one is going to risk their life for that although 15 dollars for 2 seconds work might be the most money I ever made in that amount of time. Just to make him feel better I let him give me the money. I didn't say anything more since their mistake was obvious and they were distraught over it anyway.

No one waiting for the light to change even noticed what had just happened. I'm certain if a little kid went flying by spraying them all with his blood it would have gotten their attention! (Or the both of us). The truck driver probably thought it was my fault and that if I'd been hit, I deserved it. Since this was about 1989 I don't think anyone had yet invented those leases I observed people using to hold on to their kids. Maybe the father came up with the idea from my near-death experience. Why is it that someone has to almost die before someone does something about it. History repeats itself.

Evergreen Park Students Attend American Legion Auxiliary's Illini Girls State

On Sunday, June 13th through Saturday June 19th, Evergreen Park High School students Shannon Orgzalek and Jessica Schmitt will participate in the American Legion Auxiliary's Illini Girls State program at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois.

Illini Girls State is a practical application of Americanism and good citizenship, and it is an intense learning experience that simulates Illinois Governmental procedure for girls who have completed their junior year in high school. Girls learn about two-party systems, elect officials, introduce and pass bills, and hold mock court trials.

Over 50 girls from Illinois will attend the program this year. If you would like to learn more about the program or membership in the Auxiliary, please contact Dian Kinahan at 708-229-2129.

Evergreen Park Independence Day Parade

The 42nd Annual Independence Day Parade will take place in Evergreen Park on Friday, July, 2nd. There are still opportunities to march in the parade or enter a float as well as sponsor a marching unit or band. If interested call 708-229-3373 or download the application at www.evergreenpark-ill.com.

Flag Day Observance

The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park 13401 South Wolf Road Orland Park, IL (708) 448-8142, invites everyone in the community to Flag Day observance at the Sunday, June 13th worship service at 10:00 a.m. The service will begin with the posting of the Colors. Veterans from our community will be a part of the worship service. There are more than 20 veterans in the congregation and all veterans from the community are welcome to participate. These veterans were recently honored at Armed Forces Sunday, May 16th.

Vacation Bible School - Galactic Blast: A Cosmic Adventure Praising God! Monday through Friday, June 14th-18th, 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Age 3 years through 5th Grade. There is no registration fee. A free will offering will be taken daily to help pay for program costs. Activities each day include: Music, Recreation, Science Time, Crafts, Bible Time and Snacks. Please call (708) 448-8142 to register.

St. Laurence Summer Sports Camps

St. Laurence High School in Burbank, the place "Where Leadership Begins," will once again be sponsoring its popular Summer Sports Camps under the supervision and instruction of St. Laurence Viking coaches and varsity team members. Camps include the sports of baseball, basketball, football, soccer, and lacrosse. These camps are for boys who will be in the 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th grades in the 2010-11 school year.

Further information and registration forms may be obtained by calling the St. Laurence Athletic Department at 708-458-6900, extension 256. Interested parties can also visit St. Laurence High School's user-friendly website at www.stlaurence.com, and click on Athletics to download the registration form.

Oak Lawn Bible Church

Oak Lawn Bible Church will sponsor a Blood Drive at the church located at 9435 S. 54th Avenue in Oak Lawn on Saturday, June 19th from 8 am to 12 noon. To schedule a donation appointment, please call Courtney at 708.342.9722 or visit www.heartlandbc.org. A photo ID is required to donate. All donors will receive a free quart of Oberweis ice cream.

Metropolis presents *Mid-Life! The Crisis Musical* in Arlington Heights

by Alan Bresloff

There was a time when musical revues graced small theaters throughout Chicago. Places like The Happy Medium on Rush Street were full on a regular basis. Cabaret has replaced this type of entertainment with many older movie theaters being converted and smaller bars adding this type of entertainment to its schedule. The Royal George on Halsted seems to continue bringing us musical revues and the Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, a charming small theater in Arlington Heights adds one or two each season to their busy schedule. Currently, they are presenting a revue called "Mid-Life! The Crisis Musical" written by Bob and Jim Walton. This is a lively little show that deals with empty nesters, morning pain, biological clocks, forgetfulness and of course menopause.

The cast of six performers carries out the two hours of musical skits with great energy on a marvelous set designed by Michael Gehmlich and Adam J. Veness. The set is designed to allow the actors to be on different levels on what appears to be a cascading staircase with sections that move away to become other areas. While the set is not a glitzy one, with the exception of over 150 lights (Yousif Mohamed) it is functional in taking us from scene/song to scene/song aided by a large projection screen with some clever videos. Director Robin M. Hughes who has a flair for revues and getting the most out of her cast members and the slick choreography by Christie Kerr sparkles.

The material is cute and with the exception of one number, "The Long Goodbye", is very fun. That particular number deals with adults looking after their parents who are brought to a playground for adults who are near the end of their time. This sketch is a little sad and very mindful to many of us of what can or may happen to their parents. While it makes you think, it takes away from the frivolity of the rest of the show. The cast, three men and three women are well suited for their roles with one exception. I thought that Katie Miller, who is indeed a very talented singer/actress/dancer, was just a bit young to be thinking about mid-life crisis or not. The others, Dennis Brown (in particular in his skit about "Side Effects" to a prescription a real hoot), the adorable Elizabeth Haley (her "Biological Clock" was hysterical and her part as a divorcee "stripper" in the reunion scene was hysterical), David Elliott (who's song about his "love Lost" is a delight), Kate Brown (who plays many roles and each to perfection) and Scott Alan Emerick, who also seems a bit younger, but manages to pull off being in mid-life, are all energetic performers with nice voices and truly know how to play for laughs. This show is designed to take our minds off anything else in the world and have a few laughs at our own expense. I for one have passed the Mid-Life period of time and recall many of the things brought up in this show as I hit 40 and then 50 and beyond. I too, miss my hair. The hair on my head, not the hair in my ears. How does that happen?

There are some wonderful moments in this diversion from our everyday world. "What did I come in here for?" is a charming little number where each cast member is wondering what they are supposed to be doing or where are their keys? Lets, face it! We have all experienced this! There are some trips to the doctor, for both the women and the men, looks at kids growing up, quitting one's job or carpool, or marriage and of course "I'm Not Ready" which tells the audience that just because you reach a number in years, doesn't mean you have to be old. I agree with that 100%. The music is handled by Micky York who works from behind the stage getting his cues by video (not an easy task, but one that he handles perfectly). The props (Nick Heggestad) are plentiful and along with the costumes (Cathy Tantillo) make the show complete.

The Metropolis is a charming little theater located in what they call downtown Arlington Heights at 111 West Campbell. There are lots of little restaurants around and plenty of free parking. The show will continue through June 19th with performances as follows:

Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.
Fridays at 8 p.m.
Saturdays at 7 p.m.
Sundays at 3 p.m.

Tickets range from $27-$43 and can be purchased by calling (847) 577-2121 or by visiting online at www.MetropolisArts.com.

For those of you who enjoy live performance but don't want to take the trip to the city, here is a theater where you can dress casual, take your drinks in with you and have a two hour escape from reality in the Northwest suburbs. Enjoy!

David Elliott, Elizabeth Haley (top), Scott Emerick, Kate Brown (bottom), in "Mid-Life! The Crisis Musical"

The Second City 50th Anniversary Tour

As part of their celebrated 20th Anniversary Season, Theatre at the Center announces that they will host a special limited engagement of The Second City 50th Anniversary Tour. Chicago's legendary comedy theatre, The Second City will appear at Theatre at the Center (1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Friday, June 11 and Saturday, June 12 at 8 p.m. This event will feature some of the best sketches, songs and improvisations from The Second City's fifty year history.

Drawing from the vast archives of material, the Touring Company produces a two-act review of The Second City's celebrated brand of topical sketch comedy, hilarious songs, and on the spot improvisation that changes with every performance. An evening with The Second City provides audiences with the chance to see comedy stars in the making, a night of cutting edge comedy and an unforgettable experience. No topic or subject matter is off limits for The Second City. If your parents asked you not to speak about it at the dinner table, chances are it will be made fun of in an evening with The Second City.

On December 16, 2009, The Second City celebrated their 50th anniversary of cutting edge satiric revues as well as the launching pad for generations of comedy superstars. The Second City continues to develop the leading voices in comedy while touring the globe. Founded in Chicago in 1959, The Second City has become the premier training ground for the comedy world's best and brightest. Their alumni list reads like a who's who of American comedy, including Mike Nichols, Elaine May, Alan Arkin, Joan Rivers, Robert Klein, Peter Boyle, Harold Ramis, John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, George Wendt, Martin Short, John Candy, Bonnie Hunt, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Horatio Sanz, Ryan Stiles, Jack McBrayer, Tim Meadows, Chris Farley, Mike Myers, Steve Carell, Stephen Colbert, Tina Fey and countless others.

Comedians who will be participating in the Theatre at the Center special engagement include Brooke Bagnall, Rob Belushi, Abby McEnany, Rachel Miller and Tim Ryder. Bill Bungeroth directs with Music Director Jesse Case and Stage Manager Shawn Pace.

Founded in 1991, Theatre at the Center is a year-round professional theater at its home, The Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana. Theatre at the Center is conveniently located off I-80/94, just 35 minutes from downtown Chicago, and has free parking. Currently celebrating their 20th anniversary season, Theatre at the Center will present the timeless musical phenomenon Jesus Christ Superstar July 8 through August 8.

Performances are Friday, June 11 and Saturday, June 12 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $40. A special dinner theater event will be available on Friday, June 11 only for $60. For more information and or to purchase tickets, call the Box Office at 219.836.3255, Tickets.com at 800.511.1552.

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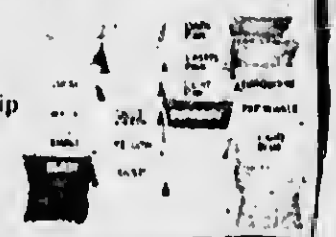

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Investors Frustrated And Disgusted With 2% CD's. Say They Are Victims Of Banks's Greed... "How About You?"

"I still have trouble believing that my client was only making 2% on those lousy CD's." This comment comes from Paul Cook, the nation's leading authority on investment alternatives. "Like most people she was convinced there really wasn't any safe alternative that would pay her any more." Says, Paul Cook, an independent financial advisor, who provides consumers with a free report on how to maximize your interest while still protecting your nest egg.

"She has been dealing with her bank for over 17 years and was simply stunned to find out that they wouldn't do any better than 2.23% on her CD even though they were charging her over 15% on her credit card. "They didn't even care that I had been such a loyal customer all these years." The sad truth is, this scene is not that uncommon. The bottom line is most people put their money with banks because they want safety of their principle and because they are afraid of this roller coaster of a stock market. However, most people don't know that there are safe alternatives, that pay you better returns and have tax advantages," boasts Paul Cook.

If you are sick and tired of your 2% CD's earning a pitiful interest and are rightfully scared of the crazy and risky stock market the answer to your frustrations just may be contained in the report written by Paul Cook. This report is designed to help consumers find alternatives to CD's and the stock market that not only safely protect their nest eggs but that also provide many tax advantages. The report explains that most people make two costly mistakes when investing.

1. They fail to seek alternatives instead they listen to the advice of a friend or a family member, and

2. They fail to look at the impact that taxes can have on the investments they choose.

"Even though today's investment environment can be very scary, a smart investor can find safe investments with high returns that have tax advantages, if they know where to look," states Paul Cook.

To receive the free report that explains all this in much more detail, simply call 1-800-365-1289.

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Job Fair

Orland Township Job Fair
June 14, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Orland Township
14807 S. Ravinia Avenue • Orland Park, IL

In an effort to help the community, Orland Township is hosting a job fair on June 14, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The goal is to help dispersed workers, as well as those who have recently graduated and are looking to lay the groundwork for a successful career.

Business attire is required and participants are expected to bring updated resumes for distribution.

For more information call 708-403-4222

For a list of participating companies, please visit www.orlandtwp.org

Obituaries

Steven John Pavlik age 23, loving son of John J. Pavlik, Jr. and Wendy Pavlik, dear brother of Ashley and Kaylee Pavlik, Annie (Ken) Kelly, James Dempsey and the late Carolyn Pavlik, grandson of the late John and Loretta (nee Dickman) Pavlik, also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Visitation was at Kosary Funeral Home 9837 S. Kedzie, Evergreen Park. Cremation Private (708) 499-3223.

Sophie A. Bradtke nee Janecko, age 95, a resident of Evergreen Park, IL a retail owner. Beloved wife of the late Raymond, loving mother of Pamela (Roger) Terrance and Pamela (Ron) Duval, dear grandmother of Kerry (Bill) Coffey, Shawn and Matt Terrance; great grandmother of Rachel, Jessica, Amanda and Abigail; also survived by many nieces and nephews. Visitation at Kosary Funeral Home 9837 S. Kedzie, Evergreen Park Interment Resurrection (708) 499-3223

Asset Management

"ATTENTION: Seniors With Retirement Savings!"

"Retirees Make These Mistakes, Losing Thousands of Dollars!"
By Paul Cook

A nationally known financial expert says many seniors who have savings accounts make these mistakes, costing themselves and their families thousands of dollars! They risk their retirement security, increasing the chance they could outlive their money.

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Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 11 | June 1, 2010

Three generations of Boy Scouts will serve as grand marshals for the Orland Park Lions Club's 2010 Orland Days Parade, a salute to the Boy Scouts of America's 100th Anniversary. Left to right are Cubmaster Gerry Klotz, Bear Cub Scout Christopher Millbrandt and Eagle Scout Bob Jones.

Orland Park Lions Club Salutes Boy Scouts'

The Orland Park Lions Club's annual Orland Days Celebration dates back decades when the community first gathered for a carnival and annual parade that traveled the streets of Old Orland. This year, the five day celebration will be held Wednesday, June 2 through Sunday, June 6 at the 153rd Street Commuter Station.

A highlight of the weekend is the annual Orland Days Parade, the theme for which this year is a salute to the Boy Scouts of America's 100th anniversary. The 2010 Orland Days Parade will be held Sunday, June 6, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at Orland Junior High School at 148th and West Avenue, traveling south to the fair grounds at the 153rd Street Commuter Station.

"Orland Park is home to hundreds of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and the Lions Club is pleased to be able to salute their organization's centennial," said Lion Steve Anton, chair of this year's parade and third vice-president of the Lions Club. Anton noted that the Lions Club saluted the Girl Scouts of America's 85th anniversary in 1997.

Three generations of Boy Scouts will preside over the 2010 Orland Days Parade with three grand marshals having been chosen for the West Avenue procession.

Forty year Orland Park resident Bob Jones, who will turn 75 in August, was found during the Lions Club's search for the oldest Eagle Scout living in Orland Park. Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scout Program and is held for life, thus the phrase, "Once an Eagle, always an Eagle."

Jones was a member of Ashbourne Troop #1 in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, one of the first Boy Scout troops in the United States.

City of Oak Forest e-Briefs

Vehicle sticker renewal forms are in the mail.

The first day to purchase your vehicle sticker is June 1. Senior citizens, 65 and older, receive three complimentary vehicle stickers per household. Although the deadline to purchase stickers is June 30, existing sticker's expire on July 15, 2010. Those purchasing stickers this year will be allowed to do so without penalty until July 16.

Forest in Bloom applications due July 1.

The Forest in Bloom Awards are presented annually to Oak Forest residents, businesses and organizations that take the extra steps necessary to beautify their homes and properties through exceptional landscaping. Nominate yourself or a neighbor.

Congressman Rush hosts district business loan day on June 3.

Congressman Bobby L. Rush in cooperation with the U.S. Small Business Administration and Strategies for Small Business – Superior Financial Support is hosting a district business loan day on Thursday, June 3 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Radday Lodge in Midlothian.

Check out the Veterans Commission online.

The Veterans Commission recently added new information and links to its Web page, including how to send care packages to loved ones currently serving in the military, a recent news article from The VA Veteran, and how to donate items to the Manteno Veterans Home.

Question of the Week

I'm tired of having to walk around cars that are blocking the sidewalks. Isn't there an ordinance against this?

Yes. According to ordinance 7302, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with directions of a police officer or official traffic sign or signal, no operator of a vehicle shall stop, stand or park the vehicle on any sidewalk (including partial parking) from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. except that it is lawful to park across and perpendicular to the path of a sidewalk between the driveway and driveway apron area of a single-family residence during the 24-hour period following a snowfall of more than two inches. Look up other city ordinances.

To submit a question for consideration, please send an e-mail to emaher@oak-forest.org and type Question of the Week in the subject line.

20th Annual Stars and Stripes 5K Run/Walk

The Tinley Park-Park District will host its annual Stars & Stripes 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, July 4 at 8:00 a.m. at McCarthy Park, 16801 S. 80th Avenue. Pre-registrations are being accepted now through June 30 at the Bettenhausen Recreation Center, 8125 W. 171st Street for $17 per runner. Past participants may register on-line at www.tinleyparkdistrict.org. Registration forms may also be downloaded from the web site. T-shirts will be awarded to the first 450 runners registered for the event. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place in each category, male/female. Awards will also be presented to the best overall male and female Tinley Park resident. Race day registrations will be accepted beginning at 7:00 a.m. on July 4 for $22.00. Register today for this annual event. This race is TAC certified and will be chip timed. For additional information please contact the Park District at 708-342-4200.

Orland Park named Tree City USA Community for 23rd Consecutive Year

Arbor Day Foundation Plants, Nurtures and Celebrates Trees

The Village of Orland Park has been named a Tree City USA community for the twenty-third consecutive year. The Tree City USA Program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Four-criteria had to be met to qualify, including having a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Orland Park is honored to again receive this distinction from the Arbor Day Foundation," said Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin. "We're very proud of the village's more than two decades of commitment to the environment," he added.

Orland Park's 2009 tree initiatives included planting eight large trees at area schools, distributing more than 1400 saplings to local school children and the village's 50/50 Tree Planting Program, during which residents and the village split the cost of parkway trees.

Parks and Building Maintenance Director Frank Stee oversees Orland Park's tree programs. "The school kids enjoy it when people from the village visit to observe Arbor Day with them. They get to see a new tree planted at their school and specific grades receive saplings to take home to plant each year," Stee explained.

John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation added, "We commend Orland Park's elected officials, volunteers and its citizens for providing vital care for its urban forest." Rosenow added, "Trees provide numerous environmental, economical and health benefits to millions of people each day, and we applaud communities that make planting and caring for trees a top priority."

"We're doing all that we can now to preserve the environment for the generations to come," McLaughlin said, adding "Giving tree saplings to the school children underscores the importance of trees within a community."

Village View

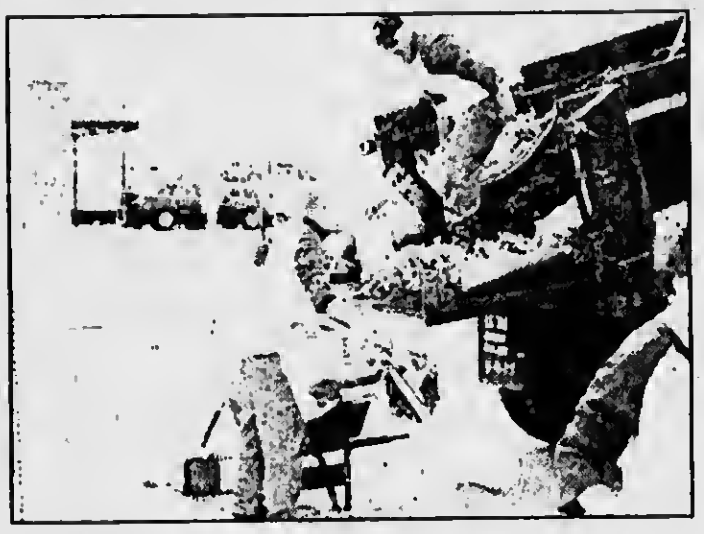
We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 11 | June 1, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Planting Day takes place in Worth



The Village Of Worth held their annual Planting Day and Beautification Day of the Lucas Berg Nature Preserve Over 100 Volunteers were sponsored by Nicor, Oh Boy Pizza, Private Bank and Windy City Subs to help make this day a success for the village Flowers were planted along 111th Street and Harlem, and the Lucas Berg Pit was cleaned out with the help of the USACL For more information on future cleaning dates, please visit www lucasberg shutterfly com or www villageofworth com

Jazzin' at the Shedd Grooves into a new night this summer

Starting June 23, Shedd Aquarium's 16th annual summer concert series, Jazzin' at the Shedd, fills Wednesday nights with the magical sounds of Chicago's favorite musicians Debuting on a new night, Jazzin' at the Shedd coincides with Chicago's regular fireworks display over Lake Michigan, transforming Shedd's lakefront North Terrace into a front row seat for the show – both the fireworks and music

While enjoying the music and the view, guests at Jazzin' at the Shedd visit Shedd's original galleries, stop by the sharks in Wild Reef, explore the North and South Poles with the penguins in Polar Play Zone and get a glimpse of the five-month-old beluga whale calf in the Oceanarium

During Jazzin' at the Shedd, the Oceanarium, Wild Reef and Polar Play Zone are open till 8 p m and the original galleries are open till 10 p m Tickets are $12 for adults and $10 for children (ages 3 to 11) See the Oceanarium and Polar Play Zone for only $6 more Engage the senses like never before with a show at Shedd's 4-D FX Theater, including the new Happy Feet 4-D feature, for an additional $4 Food and beverages are available for purchase For more information about Jazzin' at the Shedd, please call (312) 692-3373 or visit www sheddaquarium org The performance dates are as follows

June 23 - Peter Van Nuis
June 30 - Detour Jazfunk
July 7 - Chicago OGD
July 14 - Tim Fitzgerald Quartet
July 21 - Lake Effect
July 28 - Bill Burrs
August 4 - Detour Jazfunk
August 11 - Greg Duncan
August 18 - Chicago OGD
August 25 - Peter Van Nuis
September 1 - Detour Jazfunk

The Chicago Ridge Public Library

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S Oxford, will host the program, "Reduce Your Comed Bill" on Wednesday, June 9th at 7 00 p m Beat the heat and the recession at the same time Learn about low-cost and no-cost strategies for managing household electricity costs during the warm weather Learn about the Comed Residential Real-Time Pricing Program This workshop is presented by CNT Energy, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people save energy and money

Please join us for this free workshop! Call the library at (708) 423-7753 if you have any questions

The Friends of the Chicago Ridge Public Library will hold a Book Sale on June 11th-12th, from 9 00 a m – 1 00 p m There is no entrance fee The library is located at 10400 S Oxford

The Library, 10400 S Oxford, will continue the Job Searching Workshop Series throughout the summer Please join us on Thursday, June 17th at 7 00 p m for "Setting Goals and Staying Focus" Led by Lesley Widmer, a licensed clinical counselor, specializing in helping people reach their highest potential, Lesley will help you establish goals and present exercises that help you stay balanced while reaching your goals Mentored by Jack Canfield of the famous Chicken Soup Series, Lesley will also help you establish the critical 30 second Elevator speech that every Job Seeker needs The library's Job Club will continue to meet throughout the summer on Saturdays from 10 00 a m to Noon Call the library at 423-7753 with any questions about these free events Make a Splash— Read at Your Library! Join the Chicago Ridge Public Library 2010 Summer Reading Program! The Chicago Ridge Public Library is located at 10400 S Oxford Avenue in Chicago Ridge Make a Splash Read summer reading program is for all children from age 3 up to and including those who will be entering 8th grade As children read books, they can earn a ton of great prizes When you log five points on your book log, you can sign up for fun crafts attend special programs, and have lots of fun! Some of these programs include Bingo, a kid's book club, reading buddies, and a special program every Thursday and so much more! Stop by the Library to register June 7, 2010 for a summer full of splashtastic fun! The library will also be hatching ducks!

Babies 'N Books

For birth to 23 months old with parent or caregiver, have their own special reading time! At 11 00 am on Thursday mornings at 11 00 am Dates June 17 and 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and August 5 To register by phone contact the library at (708) 423-7753

Tales for Twos and Threes!

Two and three-year-olds are invited to come for a special story time, along with a parent of other adult caregiver This will be from 10 00-10 30 AM on Wednesdays Dates June 16, 23, and 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, and August 4

Teen Outdoor Games

The Chicago Ridge Public Library announces Teen Outdoor Games Dive into outdoor fun! Meet in the parking lot for some summer games on June 22 at 7 00 PM

For more information or to register for any of these events call (708) 423-7753

New noncredit classes offered at Moraine Valley

From haunted houses to bicycle maintenance to wine tastings, Moraine Valley Community College has something for everyone this summer Find an old favorite or try one of these new noncredit classes

Find the artist within by using colored pencils and china markers in Drawing with Color, or learn about the basic elements of interior design in Fundamentals of Design

Moms can learn about essential oils as healthy alternatives to chemical products for their young children and teens in Intro to Essential Oils for Moms Part I and 2, while massage therapists can get basic essential oil knowledge to enhance senior healthcare Develop the gifts that accompany psychic and spiritual knowledge in Kundalini and the Chakras, or learn how to use the Emotional Freedom Technique to correct anxiety or phobias

Want to know how ghost hunters do it? Sign up for Haunted Houses, and learn techniques and equipment used to find spirits as well as examine haunted places and case studies Level one and two fast track computer programs will be offered in Word, Excel, Access and PowerPoint

Cooper's Hawk Winery is back with new courses in Wine and BBQ, Cooper Hawk Menu Secrets Revealed, or Wine and Chocolates Each of these courses will be held at Cooper's Hawk Winery and Restaurant, 15690 S Harlem, Orland Park Participants must be 21 or older to enroll Food will be served

Bicycle enthusiasts will get a kick out of Riding with Kids and Families, Basic Bicycle Maintenance, Bicycle Commuting, or Smart Traffic Cycling The Non-Emergency Transport Safety Training course provides certification training for the State of Illinois Healthcare & Family Services The class covers all aspects of transport safety issues relating to passenger safety and para-transit vehicle operations

Dates, times, and costs vary for each class For more information on any of these classes, call Workforce Development and Community Services at (708) 974-5735, or visit morainevalley edu/wdes

Students can register in person at the Registration Office in Building S Room 125, on campus, 9000 W College Pkwy, Palos Hills, or by calling (708) 974-2110 TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556) Previously enrolled students can register online at morainevalley edu

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 11 | June 1, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

The Southwest Community Concert

The Southwest Community Concert Band, directed by Ray Forlenza, presents "An Old Fashioned Band Concert." Musically we'll recreate a time when the town concert band was the main source of entertainment for many across the United States. You'll hear Sousa & Fillmore marches and some old "chestnuts" from the concert band repertoire. Of course there will be Broadway selections and some favorites from the Great American Songbook. The music of Cole Porter and George Gershwin will be performed and the concert will conclude with Sousa's patriotic The Stars and Stripes Forever. A thoroughly musically entertaining afternoon is guaranteed for all!

Our guest artist will be Ron Agnew who is one of the original Harmonicats, a legendary harmonica ensemble from Chicago. Ron Agnew, a third generation Harmonicat, was born in Elgin, IL in 1932. At an early age, his family moved to "Back of the Yards" in Chicago. Ron started on trumpet in 1946 but when he heard "Peg O' My Heart" by the Harmonicats in 1947, he knew that sound was for him and purchased his first harmonica. By working a paper route, he purchased his first Chord Harmonica for $50 in 1948 and his career took off. He even won a wristwatch on the Morris B Sachs show. He also has appeared on Chicago TV channels 2, 5 and 7. About the time he married Sophie, he was offered a playing job on the road. Sophie said he could go but don't come back. He put his chord harmonica away. After Sophie died in 1985, Ron started playing again. He worked with Bud Boblink who had the rights to the Harmonicats name. He also plays with the Windy City Harmonica Trio. In 2000, Ron had pneumonia and went into a coma. He was given 2 days to live. He woke up 9 days later. Doctors attributed this to his lung power from the harmonica. The Harmonica is the only instrument that you draw air in as well as blow it out. Ron started a Harmonicas For Breathing monthly class at Christ Hospital. Programs like this are now found around the country. He still plays at harmonica conventions and special programs.

This free concert will be held Sunday, June 6, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at the First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 South Bell Road, Lemont, Illinois 60439. During intermission, beverages and snacks can be purchased at the church's Clay Cup. Scholarship winners will be announced at this concert.

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council. The Southwest Community Concert Band was established in 1981. Rehearsals are 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at the First Church of the Nazarene, 12725 South Bell Road, Lemont, IL 60439. PO Box 246, Lemont, Illinois 60439-0246. Band voice mail (815) 773-4159. Website: www.swcommunityband.com. E-mail: info@swcommunityband.com.

Upcoming events

June 13, 2010 Sunday 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Free band concert at Circle Park, 97th and Homan, Evergreen Park. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

July 4, 2010 Saturday 3:00 p.m. "Outdoor Patriotic Concert" at the beautiful Cantigny Gardens and Park, 1S151 Winfield Road, Wheaton, IL 60189-3397. www.cantigny.org. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

July 12 – 16, 2010. The Band hosts a Summer Band Camp for students entering 6th through 9th grade. At the First Church of the Nazarene. http://www.swcommunityband.com/banddav.html

Alsip Merrionette Park Public Library District presents Sweet Read Chicago

Stop at the Reference Desk to sign up for the 2010 Summer Reading Program, "Sweet Read Chicago." Sign-up begins Saturday, June 5th and the program concludes Saturday, July 31st.

This year, readers are asked to complete three books by July 31st. You'll receive a prize for reaching your reading goal, as well as a chance for additional prizes. For example, reading books about Chicago or by Illinois authors puts your name in the running for more prizes. There will also be a grand prize drawing at the conclusion of the program.

Books should be library books from the Alsip-Merrionette Park Library, requested through our library or downloaded from My Media Mall. Audiobooks can be used for the Adult Summer Reading Program, as well as print books. Non-residents may participate for a fee of $5.00.

Bosnian-born writer to visit Blue Island

Join us for an appearance by author Aleksandar Hemon, whose novel, The Lazarus Project was a 2008 National Book Award finalist. His short story collection, Love & Obstacles, was released in paperback on May 4. The Bosnian-born writer will read from his book and likely talk about his early days practicing English in Blue Island as a Greenpeace canvasser.

When: Wednesday, June 2nd, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St., 708-388-1078.

Free Windy City Thunderbolts ticket

Southside student-athletes have an opportunity to get a convenient physical examination and receive a free ticket to a 2010 season Windy City Thunderbolts game (while supplies last). The complete exams are provided by experienced MetroSouth Medical Center family practice physicians (in conjunction with SportlinkUSA) and fulfill school requirements for student-athlete physicals. Appointments can be made at any of the eighteen school locations by visiting www.sportlinkusa.com.

Sertoma Centre's Melanie Jones named Rotary Club President of the Year

Sertoma Centre, Inc. is proud to announce that Melanie Jones, Director of Advancement and Communications was recently named President of the Year at the 2010 Rotary District #6450 Conference held in Lincolnshire, Illinois. Rotary District #6450 consists of sixty-six clubs from Chicago and surrounding communities. When Melanie became the president of the Orland Park Rotary Club for 2009-2010, she looked forward to her time in a leadership role and all the great things her club would accomplish over the year. Now with her time of service drawing to a close, being recognized for her guidance and commitment is an amazing honor.

As Director of Advancement and Communications at Sertoma Centre in Alsip, Ms. Jones' main objectives are to create awareness and raise money for Sertoma Centre's programs, which benefit over 650 individuals with developmental, physical, emotional disabilities and/or mental illness. Her goals as Orland Park Rotary Club President are very similar.

Jones speaks very highly of her fellow club members. "I am proud that numerous members of the Orland Park Rotary also support Sertoma Centre by being Silent Partners, volunteering when we pack up merchandise from the Housewares Show at McCormick Place, and helping at the BIG Event both as committee members and attendees," she explained. "They recognize the great work done here at Sertoma Centre and help us in a number of meaningful ways."

Sertoma Centre, Inc. is a nationally-accredited, not-for-profit agency that provides services to over 650 individuals with disabilities. For more information, to schedule a tour, volunteer or to make a donation, please contact Melanie Jones, Director of Advancement and Communications, Sertoma Centre, 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803, (708) 730-6206, www.sertomacentre.org.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 36 | Number 24 | June 15, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Rep Lipinski and Rep Brady clad in a Blackhawks jersey and bearing cheese steaks

Rep. Lipinski celebrates Blackhawks' Stanley Cup win

Today, lifelong Chicago Blackhawks fan Rep Dan Lipinski (IL-3) congratulated the team on ending its 49-year Stanley Cup drought in spectacular fashion with a dramatic victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Wednesday night in Philadelphia With Rep Lipinski having won his wager with Rep Robert Brady of Philadelphia on the outcome of the series. Rep Brady delivered cheese steaks from Geno's Steaks in South Philly to Rep Lipinski's office on Thursday at noon and posed for photos wearing a Blackhawks jersey

"Since I was a kid wearing my Blackhawks jersey and listening to Lloyd Pettit on the radio, the Stanley Cup has been the dream, now that dream has been fulfilled," Rep Lipinski said "It was an amazing game, an incredible series, and an unbelievable season Last Sunday the excitement and noise at the United Center was incredible, and the way the Hawks played that night convinced me they would finish it off in Game 6 To take the Cup on the road is especially tough, but this team never stopped believing and never stopped fighting Going into the series, it was clear they were the superior squad But talent isn't everything, and the Hawks showed tremendous heart and resilience when it counted most They shrugged off the past, silenced the doubters, and secured a place for themselves in the history books It is great to see the city celebrate our Blackhawks!"

Oak Lawn Park District Take Time for Fun Update

Play! Oak Lawn - All Summer Long

•Become a fan of the Oak Lawn Park District on Facebook! Check us out at www facebook com Keep up to date on what is going on at the Oak Lawn Park District!

• Preschool Registration – It is not too early to register for the Oak Lawn Park District's 2010 2011 preschool programs The park district offers affordable, quality preschool classes for 3- to 5-year-olds The preschool programs I Learn As You Grow I, I Learn As You Grow II, Play School and Prep School are offered at the Oak View Center (4625 W 110th St) and the Little White Building in Lake Shore Park (99th Street and Lake Shore Drive) and are taught by qualified instructors Fee for preschool programs for 3 year olds is $670 Oak Lawn residents and $752 for non-residents Fee for preschool programs for 4 year olds is $1000 Oak Lawn residents and $1124 for non-residents Payment plans are available For more information or to schedule a preschool visit, please call (708) 857-2200

•Parent & Child Playtime The Oak Lawn Park District's Special Recreation Department is offering a Parent & Child Playtime Program that will meet at the Dream Center (9600 S. Shore Dr) on Saturdays beginning June 5 from 10 – 11am This program is a great opportunity for you to play with your child(ren) while connecting with others in a wonderful park-like setting Experienced and knowledgeable staff will be on hand This program is open to children ages newborn through 3 Fee for this program is $60 for Oak Lawn residents and Coop members and $90 for non-residents For more information, contact Jacqueline Canty at 857-2200 or jcanty@olparks com

•Family & Friends CPR Course The Oak Lawn Park District is offering a Family & Friends CPR Course on Monday, June 14 from 6 30 -8 30 pm at the Community Pavilion (9401 S Oak Park Av) This American Heart Association's Family & Friends CPR course is for everyone from schoolchildren to older family members, caregivers and other adults who care for people at risk of sudden cardiac death This course focuses on CPR and response to choking and helps participants recognize signs of heart attack, cardiac arrest, stroke and choking in adults, children and infants This is not a certification course but will prepare you to act in an emergency especially with loved ones Participants will receive Family and Friends CPR book Fee for this course is $20 for Oak Lawn residents and $39 non-residents For more information please call the park district at (708) 857-2420

•Summer Day Camps -Register now for the Oak Lawn Park District's Summer Day Camps First session begins June 14th and the second session begins July 12th Extended camp is available for both sessions Camps are open to those 3 years of age through 5th grade at several convenient locations Visit www olparks com for more information or call 708/857-2200

Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church

Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church, 8426 W 95th Street Hickory Hills, IL will hold Vacation Bible School, June 21st - 25th, 6 30 – 8 30 p m This year's program titled, "Saddle Ridge Ranch", is a place where kids will ask questions and discover the answers found in God's Word The week will be filled with exciting Bible stories, crafts, music, refreshments and recreation The adventure is open to all children age 4 through grade 6

To register for this week of fund and learning, call the church office and ask for Dianne (598-3100)

Donations from E. P. Senoir Citizens council

"Memories To Go", the recent garage sale sponsored by the Senior Citizens' Council of Evergreen Park, was a huge success The Council strives to enact change for the senior population as evidenced by three recent donations

- Village of Evergreen Park Mini-Bus $500
- Purchase of 100 chairs to furnish the Senior Center

These funds offset Village expense

A third donation of $500 to American Legion Post #854 will help rebuild the Memorial Wall honoring veterans

Senior Citizens' Council is an active community organization Current membership numbers 110 seniors The Senior Citizens' Council is a 501c3 organization, which accepts monetary donations needed to realize their ongoing mission

Things to do in Evergreen Park

Tues - 15th - Saint Michael League for Law Enforcedmnt and the Military, Sacrifice of the Mass at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church 9525 S Lawndale 6pm honoring Jared Stanker,U S Army, Brian Carey, Chgo Fire Dept , Thomas Wortham, US Army and Chgo Police Dept

Wed 16th EP Library invites teens grades 6-12 to make a T-shirt Beach Bag Registration required call 708-422-8522

Wed 16th thru Sun 20th Most Holy Redeemer 2010 Carnival 6-11pm Sun 3-10pm Rides, entertainment, beer garden, raffles and bingo

Thurs 17th EP Farmer's Market at Yukich Field, 89th and Kedzie from 7am-1pm

Fri 18th Space Golf presented by the Youth Commission 11am-3pm $23 per person includes 18 holes of glow-in-the-dark golf, 8 game tokens, prize tickets, lunch and transportation Call 708-229-3377

Save the Date - Outdoor Movie Festival is back June 23rd at Yukich Field, 89th & Kedzie (northwest corner of park) "Breaking Away" July 14th at Duffy Park 92nd

Standard Bank to Host Identity Theft and Fraud Scheme Seminar

Standard Bank will sponsor an Identity Theft and Fraud Scheme Seminar on Tuesday, June 29,2010 at 6 00 PM at the Oak Lawn 95th St Branch, 4001 West 95th St The seminar will be presented by Michael Tardi and Robert Troy, Investigators for Standard Bank and experts in Identity Theft Issues Please contact Julie Partacz (708) 499-2062 X60110 or Jean Fornal (708) 499-2062 X60210 by June 25, 2010 for further information and reservations.

SXU Senior Executive Chef Michael Smith at the White House

SXU Chef heads to the White House

Chef Michael Smith volunteers to help local schools create healthier menus

Saint Xavier University Senior Executive Chef Michael Smith recently attended the "Chefs Move to Schools" program kick-off, a branch of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! anti-childhood obesity campaign, at the White House.

Smith volunteered for the program, which pairs chefs with local schools to help create healthier menus and teach children about nutrition, but has not yet been matched with a school. Let's Move! aims to support parents, provide healthier food in schools, help kids be more physically active, and make healthy, affordable food available in every part of the country.

Smith, a Chicago resident, said the program is important because it teaches children how to make healthy lifestyle choices for themselves.

"It's one of the best causes I've heard in a long time," Smith said. "I've been trying to make an impact in healthy eating, and it's so hard to change young adults' eating habits that it's like hitting your head against the wall. The initiative to start with children and show them healthy lifestyle choices is a great idea."

Villages join forces for "Buy Local" Car Dealer Campaign

The Villages of Orland Park and Tinley Park are on a mission of public education. The two municipalities have joined forces to let new vehicle buyers know that regardless of where they buy their vehicles, they pay their home county sales tax rate.

"There is a misconception that if you go to another county to buy a new vehicle, you'll save on the sales tax," said Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin. "This isn't true because new vehicle buyers from Cook County pay the sales tax for their address of record," the mayor explained.

Stressing the hometown advantage, the villages have developed a "buy local" brochure that is now available at municipal buildings and at the car dealerships in both towns. The mayors' message reads, "Traveling outside of your hometown doesn't save you money because you're still paying the county tax for your home address of record. Driving to another county or municipality costs time, gas and money."

"It's important for our residents to know that purchasing a car in their hometown benefits them in many more ways than just getting a great car at a great price," said Tinley Park Mayor Ed Zabrocki. "Their tax dollars are returned to them in the form of important community services that they depend on every day for a high quality of life," Zabrocki noted.

Automobile dealers are an important economic generator and employer for both Orland Park and Tinley Park, having a direct effect on local property taxes, sales tax revenue and employing local residents.

Car dealerships generate more than $5.6 million in total annual property tax revenue with more than $3.8 million property tax revenue going to local school districts. Dealers generate more than $6 million in annual sales tax revenue and more than $350,000 in annual charitable contributions.

The twenty car dealers within Orland Park and Tinley Park employ more than 1200 area residents and make an annual economic impact of $154 million to the area.

"Orland Park first promoted its many car dealers on 159th Street a number of years ago," McLaughlin said. "With the current state of the economy, we want people to know that they're helping themselves by shopping within their hometowns," he added. Sales tax revenue pays for daily municipal services, including police, street repairs, recreation programs, parks, bike paths, village events, snow plowing and more.

"We're happy to be a part of the program," said Dan McMillan, chief financial officer for Joe Rizza Ford/Porsche of Orland Park. "When people buy new vehicles in their hometowns, they're helping their own communities, both from a sales tax perspective and because the people who work at the dealerships are their friends and neighbors," McMillan added. "We all appreciate what Orland Park and Tinley Park are doing to make people more aware," he said.

Orland Park and Tinley Park are home to twenty car dealerships, offering "an auto show every day." Dealers within the two towns include Apple Chevrolet, Bettenhausen Dodge, Bettenhausen Chrysler and Jeep, BMW of Orland Park, Community Pontiac GMC, Community Honda, Family Hyundai, International Autos Group, Infiniti, Lexus of Orland Park, Mercedes Benz of Orland Park, Orland Park Nissan, Orland Toyota/Scion, Joe Rizza Acura, Joe Rizza Ford/Porsche/Kia, Rizza Cadillac/Buick/Hummer, Terry's Lincoln Mercury and Orland Volkswagen. Further information about new car dealers in Orland Park and Tinley Park is available at www.159th.com.

Village View Publication, Inc.
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Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Smith Village free Memory Support meeting about dealing with losses that occur in life

Area residents and the families of people who may have Alzheimer's disease or are showing early signs of the disorder are invited to attend a free program at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 22, at Smith Village, a continuing care retirement community at 2320 W. 113th Place.

Diane Morgan, the dementia care coordinator who leads the support groups at Smith Village, will show a short video titled "Grief, Loss and the Older Adults" before discussing losses that occur throughout our lives and how to help seniors deal with them. Then, a question and answer session will be held.

The 60-minute meeting designed for the adult children of seniors with memory loss challenges is free and light refreshments will be served. Please call 773-474-7300 to reserve a seat.

Letter to the editor

Dear Friend,

Now that lawmakers have approved general state-budget parameters for the fiscal year that begins in July, the Governor and top state administrators must add more detail. Will you contact them today, to help ensure they protect services that are critical to young children's learning and development?

Among the programs greatly at risk of cuts are these early childhood priorities: Preschool and birth-to-3 developmental services, Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership efforts, Healthy Families Illinois and Parents Too Soon home-visiting programs, Child care assistance, Early Intervention services.

Contact Governor Quinn today. Ask him to fully fund these early childhood services and to make young children a top priority in final budget decisions.

Young children and their families already have suffered losses in these programs, due to cuts and/or lengthy delays in provider payments. But vital services are likely to be slashed still further, considering state officials will have less to spend than in FY2010 – and they've taken no steps to deal with a nearly $6 billion backlog of unpaid bills. Plus, the Governor has broad new powers to withhold programs' funding.

Contact Sean Noble at 312-516-5566 or snoble@voices4kids.org for more information. Stay tuned for more budget and advocacy developments and information about necessary reforms. Visit our State Budget Action Center for more news about critical FY2011 priorities for kids and families.

Organizing for America-Illinois' David Seman releases Statement

Organizing for America Illinois Director David Seman issued the following statement regarding the Administration sending $250 checks to senior citizens who have fallen into the Medicare donut hole.

"Less than three months after President Obama signed the historic Affordable Care Act, Americans are already beginning to feel the positive effects. Today, senior citizens across the country will be receiving $250 checks to help them pay for the high cost of prescription drugs incurred when they fall into the Medicare 'donut hole' gap. For too long, seniors have been left footing the bill for expensive medicine when their benefits run out. Under the law, the 'donut hole' will be phased out and completely closed in 2020. These checks represent much needed relief and just the first of many benefits to senior citizens coming from the comprehensive health insurance reform that President Obama and Democrats passed into law.

Also, under the guidance of President Obama, the Department of Health and Human Services has been tasked with cutting down waste and fraud in Medicare, saving the country billions in what had been frivolous spending. As more and more Americans begin to fully understand the immediate and lasting benefits of health reform, it is further proof that now is not the time to turn back from President Obama's historic agenda to help middle class families and continue creating jobs."

Other benefits that have already begun include health insurance companies forever ending the practice of 'rescissions,' when people would be cut off from benefits after becoming sick. In addition, young adults will now be able to stay on their parents' health insurance until they are 26, giving thousands of graduating seniors security as they enter the job force.

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OLBC Sets Dates for VBS

Oak Lawn Bible Church, 9435 S. 54th Avenue, will hold its annual Vacation Bible School for children

Kindergarten through 5th grade from 9:30-11:45am Monday July 26 to Friday July 30

This year's program is titled "Egypt-Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace".

Children do not need to be members of the church to attend and there is no cost.

For more information or to register, call 708.857.9800 or visit the church's website at www.oaklawnbible.org

American Legion Auxiliary monthly meeting

The Evergreen Park American Legion Auxiliary will hold its monthly meeting on

Monday, June 28, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Officers and Chairmen will give Annual Reports

and members will reflect on the year's activities with the goal of preparing for the future.

The Auxiliary will be on hiatus during July and August, then return to meeting each month beginning September 27, 2010.

If you are interested in learning more about membership in the Auxiliary, please contact Dian Kinahan at 708-229-2129.

Learn-to dance and still party

Heart & Sole Dance in Tinley Park will celebrate their 2nd Anniversary by throwing a weekend party June 18th & 19th!

Their brand new 'Music Video Class' (where everyone is invited to learn the dance steps to Michael Jackson's "Beat It") kicks off the weekend on Friday night.

There will also be a swing & Hustle dance party later in the evening. Saturday is filled with $5 group lessons during the day and then the party really gets going with the Red Carpet Dance Party on Saturday night Everyone is welcome, to check out the studio, talk to the instructors & staff, watch dancers, mingle and mingle and maybe win free lessons at the studio.

PLUS, everyone that stops in and brings a new person with them on Friday or Saturday gets a $10 off coupon good towards any private lesson package - for both people! Heart & Sole Dance is located at 7038 183rd Street in Tinley Park.

A schedule of classes and details about the Anniversary Celebration is available at www.HeartSoleDance.com, by calling (708) 5DANCE5, or by stopping in the studio.

Celebrate Dad at the Oak Lawn Children Museum

The Children's Museum in Oak Lawn and Park Lawn have teamed up to present "Pops for Park Lawn" from 9:00am-4:00pm on Saturday June 19th.

This will be a day of family fun with clowns, cookie decorating, face painting, Father's Day crafts and much, much more.

Admission to the museum will be $6.00 per person as always. There will be additional costs for some of the activities planned. There is no need to register. Some of the activities will be outside, weather permitting.

For details on this event and the weekly events at the Museum, go to www.cmoaklawn.org.

Annual Walk 4 Life

Southside Pregnancy Center will host its 26th annual "Walk 4 Life" fundraising event on Saturday, June 19, 2010 at Chicago Christian High School's Track & Field in Palos Heights, Ill (12001 S. Oak Park Ave.).

Event day begins with registration/check-in at 9:15am, followed by a brief opening program at 10:00am and ending with a one-mile walk around the track. The Walk is scheduled to conclude by 11:30am. Those who prefer to "Rock 4 Life" can do so in one of the available rocking chairs on site.

The Walk 4 Life is a day to CELEBRATE LIFE: an event the whole family can enjoy. "This is a great opportunity for the community to come together and make a difference in the lives of others. By raising awareness and funds, Southside Pregnancy Center will continue to offer FREE limited medical services and crisis pregnancy intervention to those in need," said Kathy Bozyk, executive director for Southside Pregnancy Center.

Walkers are encouraged www.SouthsidePregnancy.org to PRE-REGISTER and access their FREE, user-friendly "Walk 4 Life" promotional webpage. Walkers can customize their webpage and link to other social networking groups such as Facebook© and Twitter to help them achieve their personal fundraising goals quickly and effortlessly. All ONLINE pre-registrants (by 5pm Friday, June 18th) will receive a FREE water bottle at the event registration/check-in table on event day.

Others may pre-register by calling 708.346.9070 or by faxing their completed form to 708.346.9077. Additional pledge forms can be mailed upon request or can be downloaded at www.SouthsidePregancy.org. Last minute Walkers are welcome to participate and can register on event day.

For more information about the "Walk 4 Life", www.SouthsidePregnancy.org or call the events office at 708.346.9070.

Established in 1984, Southside Pregnancy Center is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization offering life-affirming options to those affected by unplanned pregnancy. Over the last 26 years, the center has served well over 50,000 community members from the south and southwest Chicagoland area. All services are FREE of charge and include: pregnancy testing, limited ultrasound for pregnancy diagnosis, medically-accurate information on all pregnancy options, educational classes for life skills, pre-natal instruction and parenting, father's program, spiritual support groups, material assistance for baby and maternity supplies, community referrals...and more.

Recording Artists The Chosen Ones appear in concert

The Chosen Ones, Southern Gospel recording artists, will be at Immanuel Church for an outdoor concert, on Saturday, June 19 at 6p.m.

Immanuel Church is located at 8302 S. Normandy in Burbank, Il. There will be free pop and popcorn and a free dessert to follow. Bring a lawn chair and a friend.

For more information about this event please contact Bob and Marj Kuiper 708-425-4508.

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Wednesday, July 14, 2010 from 9am to 2 pm. Cost $25.00

White Sox Park Tour
Monday, August 9, 2010 from 9:45 am to 1pm. Cost $18.00

Tinley Park Roller Rink
Wednesday, August 18, 2010 from 11 am to 3 pm

All trips include Transportation, Lunch, and Entry Fee. You must be 10 years old and a Resident of Evergreen Park.

For more information call 708-229-3377.

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Super Sunday Bingo (Raffle) $10,000 In Prizes!

Sunday, June 27

Southwest Community Services, Tinley Park

Southwest Community Services (SCS) will host a Red, White & Blue Super Sunday Bingo (Raffle) on June 27th featuring $10,000.00 in prizes. Doors open at 1:00 pm, early bird games begin at 2:30 pm, and regular games begin at 3:00 pm. Packages are either $100.00 or $60.00 in advance with computer being optional. You may purchase tickets in advance at the regular Tuesday Night Weekly Bingo or by calling 708-429-1260 ext 1243. Detailed information is at www.swesinc.org. Advance ticket purchases are requested. SCS is located at 6775 Prosperi Drive in Tinley Park.

SCS, a not for profit organization, has been serving the community since 1971 and is CARF accredited. Services and programs are provided for individuals with developmental and physical disabilities and those with mental illness. SCS receives funding from the Department of Human Services, the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago, civic groups and private donations.

Carroll and senior Anna Anderson

Varsity Most Valuable Athlete – junior Jessica Risley (Oak Lawn)

Seniors Nicole Frederick (left) and Allison Kirwan were named the 2009-10 Scholar Athletes of the Year on May 27 at Peace's Spring Sports Banquet.

Peace recognizes Spring student athletes

Queen of Peace celebrated its annual Spring Sports Banquet on May 27 and honored its student-athletes from soccer, softball and track and field.

Seniors Allison Kirwan (Burbank) and Nicole Frederick (Oak Lawn) were named 2009-2010 Scholar Athletes of the Year.

The following student-athletes were honored at the award ceremony:

Soccer

JV Leadership – frosh Kathleen Miller (Crestwood)

Varsity Leadership – senior Heather Kierzek (Oak Lawn)

Varsity Most Improved Athlete – frosh Monica Chlebek (Chicago – 60629)

Varsity Most Valuable Athlete – sophomore Colleen Wood (Palos Heights)

Softball:

Frosh Leadership – Natalie Doogan (Justice)

JV Leadership – sophomore Kelli Peyronet (Chicago – 60655)

Varsity Leadership Award – senior Allison Kirwan (Burbank)

Varsity Most Improved Athlete – sophomore Kristi Gierman (Blue Island)

Varsity Most Valuable Athlete – senior Angela Rochacz (Bridgeview)

Track and Field:

JV Leadership Award frosh Lauren Crotty (Burbank)

Varsity Leadership Award – senior Marcella Perez (Burbank)

Varsity Most Improved Award – junior Candice

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3RD ANNUAL FAMILY FEST & CRAFT SHOW
Saturday, July 17, 2010 ~ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
7801 W. 71st Street, Bridgeview

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Tinley Park Board of Trustees honors the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouting

The Tinley Park Village Board will issue a Resolution honoring the 100th Anniversary of Boy Scouting in the United States at their next meeting, this Tuesday, June 15,2010.

Tinley Park is home to 157 Eagle Scouts. Area Cub Scout Packs and Boy Scout Troops and Venture Scout units will be represented, presenting the colors at an opening Flag ceremony at 8:00pm, and accepting the proclamation.

Prior to the meeting, at 7:00pm they will participate in a tree planting dedication in front of the Village Hall as part of Scouting's nationwide arbor effort. The tree was donated by Prairie House Garden Center on Harlem Ave. in Orland Park.

Brother Rice High School names Dr. Kevin Burns new President

Dr. Kevin Burns has been appointed president effective July 1, 2010. Dr. Burns, who has worked as the Dean of Faculty for the past two years, brings over twenty-five years of experience in administration to the position.

Prior to his tenure at Brother Rice, Dr. Burns served as Superintendent of Community High School District 218 where he spearheaded a victorious referendum campaign and was the impetus behind raising graduation requirements to help students better meet university admission standards. He also oversaw the institution of a new comprehensive ninth grade program that redefined the academic, social and personal experiences for freshmen beginning in 2003. In his final year as superintendent, the district completed a capital improvement campaign that included new science wings at Eisenhower and Richards and a new cafeteria at Shepard. The Board of Education voted to name the science wing at Richards in his honor.

Dr. Burns has a doctorate and masters degree from Loyola University and a bachelors degree and a Certificate of Advanced Studies from St. Xavier University.

He was named a Van Andel Scholar in 1997; one of only 30 from across the nation.

"I am very much looking forward to carrying on the strong traditions of the Christian Brothers in leadership, education and Christian ministry," Burns said

CEDA Summer Cooling Program for seniors

Beginning Monday, July 19, PLOWS Volunteers will assist seniors and disabled with a disability requiring air conditioning in filing applications.

Call PLOWS 708-361-0219 for appointment.

Applications will be processed at Office of Citizens' Services, 3450 West 97th Street.

Peace Junior Accepted Into Chicago College of Pharmacy Career Explorers Program

Queen of Peace junior Lauren Vitrano has been accepted into Midwestern University Chicago College of Pharmacy's Career Explorers Program. The intensive six-week summer program consists of organized hands-on activities, in which the student functions as a pharmacy technician at a Walgreens or Jewel-Osco pharmacy, and a short course, in pharmacy-related topics at the Chicago College of Pharmacy.

Students spend 50 percent of their 40-hour work week at the Chicago College of Pharmacy in Downers Grove and 50 percent of the time at a Walgreens or Jewel-Osco pharmacy.

The program, which accepts 25 applicants, is designed to prepare students to be successful pharmacy technicians; allow students to explore various career opportunities in the pharmacy community, link students to mentors, and provide information and guidance to prepare students for a pharmacy education.

BLUE ISLAND FEST

JUNE 23 - JUNE 27

MEMORIAL PARK

12804 S. Highland Ave.

Blue Island, IL

FIREWORKS!

SUNDAY 9:15PM

FREE ADMISSION!

Wednesday
June 23th
Blue Idol begins 5-8pm
Textbook Committee 7-9pm

Thursday
June 24th
Blue Idol 5-6pm
Dead Town Revival 6-7:30pm
Soda Jerks 8 - 11pm
Car Show 6 - 10pm

Friday
June 25th
80's Enough 5 - 8pm
Hairbangers Ball 9 - 12pm

Saturday
June 26th
Blue Idol 4-5pm
Leapin Lizards & the All-Stars 1-4pm
Johnny & Conx 5 - 8pm
Infinity 8:30 - 12:00pm

Sunday
June 27th
Blue Idol Finals &
Live Band Karaoke 1 - 7:30pm
American English 8 - 10:30pm

BINGO

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ALL WEEK LONG!

Carnival Rides
Kid's Tent
Beer Garden
Food &
Craft Vendors

Call us: 708.385.3304 or visit us on the web at: www.blueislandparks.org

Hickory Hills Park District announces programs and registration dates

Bike Rodeo

Bring your big wheel, tricycle or bicycle and be ready for some fun at the Krueger Park Rec. Center for our Annual Bike Rodeo on Friday, June 18, children ages 4-12 years old will have a chance to test their riding, hand signals and bike safety. After testing, a drawing will be held for one lucky boy and girl to win a brand new assembled bicycle. Only riders wearing helmets will be eligible to win and winners must be present at the time of the drawing. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m., testing is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. This event is free and is sponsored by Hickory Hills Park District, State Farm Insurance, Roberts Park Fire Department, and Hickory Hills Police Department.

Hickory Hills Street Fair

Children and adults can have a great time at the Hickory Hills Street Fair on Sunday, June 27. The Hickory Hills Park District will have rides and attractions from 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Individual rides and attraction will be $1 each. (Giant Slide, Super bouncer, Swing Ride, Inflatable Slip & Slide). Tickets will be available the day of the event at the park district booth, 91st Place and Roberts Road.

Summer Concerts

Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy a "Free" concert in the park on Tuesdays, June 29 – August 3, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., at Kasey Meadow Park, 8047 W. 91st Place. Concert series includes music performed by The Navy Band, Od Tapo Imi, Soda, Instant Karma Band, Libido Funk Circus and Public i. They'll have your toes tapping every Tuesday night of the summer. Concessions will be available. National Night Out activities on August 3 begin at 5:30 p.m. The band begins at 6:30 p.m. Call the Hickory Hills Park District for more information at 598-1233.

White Sox Training Camp

White Sox Training camp will be held at Krueger Park Rec. Center June 28 – July 2 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Young players interested in improving their skills will be given a chance to learn basic and advanced baseball skill, from some of the most gifted teachers. Ages: 7 – 11 years. Fee: $199 Resident; $201 Non-Resident.

Fitness Programs

Ladies Funk

Ladies Funk will strengthen your mind, body and inner diva with movements in floor aerobics, steps, dance moves and abdominal exercises. This class will tone your abs, thighs, buttocks and arms. This class meets on Wednesdays, June 23 – August 11 from 6:15 – 7:15 a.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center. Fee: Resident $39; Non-Resident $44 (16 yrs & Up).

Stability Ball Workout

Stability ball workout also known as the Swiss ball will enhance your range of motion and strengthen muscles while working on improving balance. This class meets on Tuesdays, June 22 – August 3 from 7:15 – 7:45 p.m. at the Cynthia Neal Center. Fee: $31 Resident; $36 Non-Resident (17 yrs & Up).

Zumba with Mommy

Here is your chance to get a workout and have some quality time with your energetic child in the Zumba with Mommy Class. The instructor will make this dance and fitness class fun and exciting. This class meets on Thursdays, July 1-29 from 10:45 – 11:30 a.m. at Krueger Park Rec. Center. Fee: $27 Resident; $32 Non-Resident. (4-9 years with mom). A free demo class will be held Thursday, June 24 from 10:45 – 11:30 a.m.

Music Classes At Hickory Hills Park District

Violin Lessons

Private violin lesson are held at Krueger Park Rec. Center for ages 5-14. Our instructor will teach positioning, notes and memorization. Lessons are 45 minutes on Saturdays between 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Lessons run from July 10 – August 21. Fee: Resident $165; Non-Resident $175.

Guitar Lessons

If you are 9 years or older and have always wanted to play guitar, the Hickory Hills Park District has a program for you. Guitar lessons will be offered on Thursdays, from June 10 – July 15, from 1:30 – 7:00 pm. at the Krueger Park Rec. Each lesson is a 30-minute time slot (determined by your level of ability) and will have you playing music in no time! All students must bring a guitar (no electric) to class. Rental available. Fee: Resident: $79; Non-Resident: $84

Dance Camp

Do you like to dance? Then, try one of our dance camps. We have a wide range to choose from, such as Jazz, Ballet, Modern & Technique for children ages 3-18, June 15 – July 16 & July 20 – August 13. Visit our web page or call the office for more information.

For more information about special events and programming, please call 708-598-1233 or visit our website at www.hhparkdistrict.org.

June 2010 Calendar of Events

7945 S. Harlem Ave., Burbank, IL 60459
For more information, please call: 708-430-9504

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	2 Movie & Popcorn "Everybody's Fine" 1 p.m.	3 Wii Bowling 11 a.m.	4 Celebrating June Birthdays! 12:30 p.m.
7	8 Tai Chi 1 p.m. Dental Insurance Seminar 9:30 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	9 Movie & Popcorn "Chicago" 1 p.m.	10 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	11 Let's Play Bingo! 1 p.m.
14 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	15 Dental Insurance Seminar 10 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	16 Movie & Popcorn "New in Town" 1 p.m.	17 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	18 "Honoring all dads with relaxing massages" 12:30 p.m.
21 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	22 Dental Insurance Seminar 10 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	23 Movie & Popcorn "Mamma Mia" 1 p.m.	24 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m. Dental Insurance Seminar 2 p.m.	25 Let's Play Bingo! 1 p.m.
28 Dental Insurance Seminar 9 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	29 Dental Insurance Seminar 10 a.m. Tai Chi 1 p.m.	30 Movie & Popcorn "500 Days of Summer" 1 p.m.		

HUMANA
Guidance when you need it most

beyond ordinary

The Yellow Bar

By: J. R. Haymaker

I wanted to make the most of my day off, so I had bought a ticket to a rock concert. Because I was new to the San Diego area, I had never been to this stadium for any performances.

Since I was by myself, I didn't mind if I had to walk a distance from where I had parked. Like most venue's that have room for parking, they charged for this convenience. Because I learned to be frugal and something of a rebel, I try to consistently do the opposite of what they want me to do.

I can't help but notice under these circumstances in cities across the nation, local street parking close to the entrance is almost always restricted to residents only. The not-so invisible hand at work again!

A tall fence circled the stadium parking lot. This security measure forced rebels like me to walk about six blocks thru the surrounding neighborhood to get to the gated entrance.

When I was within a block of the entrance, I was passing an overgrown vacant lot. Now I normally pay no attention to the refuse that collects in these places but a hint of yellow caught my eye. At this instant I had the distinct feeling that what-ever it was, someone was going to need it along the way. I then stopped in my path and went to retrieve this object. It turned out to be a yellow painted steel pipe and looked like it belonged to something. I could easily throw it away later if I found no use for it, so I carried it with me as I walked along.

It was a pleasantly warm afternoon typical of the San Diego area. As I strolled across the mostly vacant parking lot, I could see the long line formed to enter the stadium. Because it was close to the starting time of the concert, I wondered what was keeping the line from entering the arena.

Toward the side of my approach to the line some of the stadium attendants were gathered behind the fence a short distance away from the entrance. I couldn't help but notice that the machine at the front of the line was the same color as the pipe object I held in my hand. When I focused on the machine, I could see that a piece was missing and realized it would be the same shape as what I held in my hand.

Now most educated people would know that each building has a maximum occupancy determined by the authorities for the safety of the public. The only way to determine how many people were in the arena was to have a machine count the people as they entered. If one of these machines failed to function, it would stall the beginning of the event.

It was apparent that some disgruntled employee had removed this part of the machine to cause a problem. The arm piece would be removable so people could exit unencumbered later. It's not likely that a replacement piece came with the machine.

I walked up to the side of the fence adjacent to the stadium workers and told them how I had found the yellow bar laying in the bushes on the nearby vacant lot. I noted how it appeared to be part of their machine and would be happy to give it to them since I had no need of it.

I explained to them that I had a ticket to enter the stadium but would appreciate it if they would let me in first so I could get a good seat at the front near the stage. They were happy to oblige and opened a gate so I could get in.

It only occurred to me later that I should have asked for a back stage pass while I was at it!

Worth Township Seniors will be having a T'ai Chi Class

The Worth Township Senior Room will be offering a T'ai Chi Class. It will start July 14, 2010, and it will be held on Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 11:15 am.

The fees are $25.00 for Worth Township residents and $30.00 for Non-residents.

The classes will be held in the Worth Township Center, 11061 S. Pulaski, Alsip.

Please call (708) 371-2900, and ask for Ext 28 if you are interested in this class.

The Orland Township Food Pantry and the Orland Park Post Office Hosts the 17th Annual "Help Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive

On Saturday, May 8, 2010, the Orland Township Food Pantry, in conjunction with the United States Postal Service and the National Association of Letter Carriers, hosted the "Help Stamp Out Hunger" food drive.

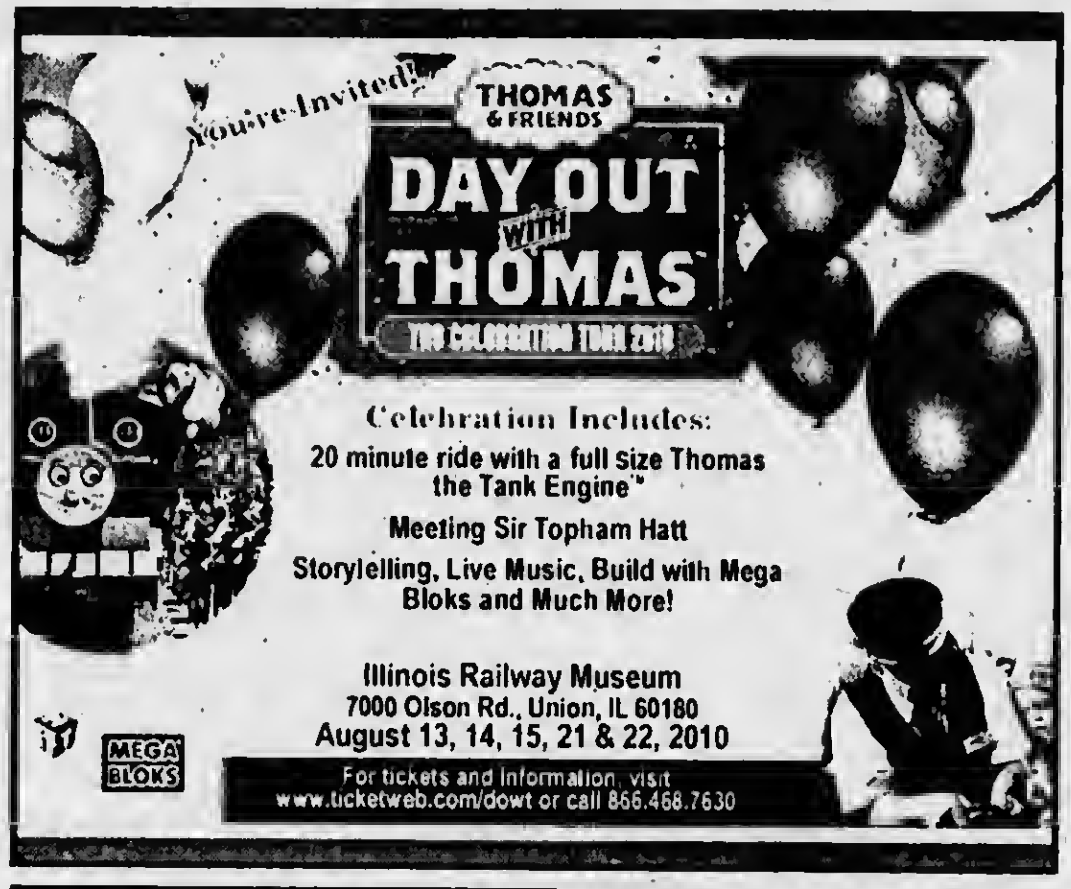
Residents of Orland Township were asked to place non-perishable food items such as canned meats and fish, soup, juice, pastas, cereal and rice near their mailboxes. Over 29, 700 lbs of food was collected, which was 4,000 lbs more than the previous year. Fifty Five carriers and over 20 volunteers, including Supervisor Paul O'Grady and Food Drive Coordinator Kay Ducett, donated their time to picking up, delivering and sorting food to the Orland Township Food Pantry, coordinated by Marianne Hill.

"We appreciate all of the hard work and volunteer hours the Post Office donates to the Orland Township Food Pantry," said Hill, "It helps fill our shelves for the summer months."

The Food Pantry is a top priority to the Township, among the many other services offered and its goal is to ensure that all residents have adequate resources to use in times of need.

"The residents of Orland Township should be proud of the postal workers' commitment to our community," said Supervisor Paul O'Grady, "The over 4,000 lbs. of food collected for the food pantry is evidence enough of that commitment and I salute them."

For information on services and additional programs like the food drive or for volunteer opportunities, please call (708) 403-4222 or visit www.orlandtwp.org.



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Independence Day
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Fireworks Display - Carnival Games
Horseshoe Tournament - Pie Eating Contest
Bingo -Food Vendors - Beer Garden
Bag Tournament - Inflatable Rides
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Trackless Train - Disc Jockey

Saturday, July 3rd
4:30 -10:00 p.m.
Fireworks -9:30 p.m

Michael Looney Park
77th & Narragansett
Burbank, Illinois

If you need additional information, call the
Burbank Park District at 708-599-2070
www.burbankparkdistrict.org

Annette's Theatre Picks for June and July

"Sugar" at the Oakbrook Drury Lane was spectacular. What a performance of "Some Like It Hot", you can see it until August 1st and tickets are only $31-45.

If you're a senior you can save $4 and students can pay $19. To purchase a ticket call 630-530-0111 or on-line www.drurylaneoakbrook.com

Marriott Theatre in Lincolnshire Available until Aug. 29th

"Once on this Island is a love story set in the beautiful Caribbean Island and based on the classic fairy tale The Little Mermaid. There are many matinee performances available Wed. 1:00, Sat. 4:30 pm and Sunday 1:00 pm . Senior and student receive $5 discount off their ticket price. Tickets cost $35 to $48 plus tax and handling fees

"Jesus Christ Superstar" Tony Award Nominated playing only at the Theatre at the Center in Munster

Tickets are now being sold. The play starts July 8 until August 8th, and it is timeless. Buy your ticket early for they may sell out for the date you wish to attend. Performances are Wed. Thurs. at 2:00 pm and Sun. at 2:30 pm for matinees and Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 pm.

The production will star Jeff Award Winner Max Quinlan as Jesus and will be directed and choreographed by Stacey Flaster.

Prices range from $36-$40, group discounts are also available. For more information call the Box Office at 219-836-3255 or www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com

ITSOSENG

This play is a one man production, written and portrayed by a young man from South Africa named Omphile Molusi. He was the winner of the Scotsman Fringe First and Royal and Shakespeare Company Goldin Bursary Awards.

The play was written by Omphile and it was about a young man yearning for change in his township. There was much corruption after the apartheid, that this young actor wrote and acted out his frustrations.

Itsoseng was the town in the Bophuthatsawna homeland that was thirsting for the fruits of Mangope's regime for many years. After 1994, the people rebelled against the whole Bophuthatswana regime therefore, did not know where to turn.

This overwhelming, heartbreaking story of the people of this town of Itsoseng and their misfortune, was portrayed by Omphile Molusi in such an outstanding way, that we got caught up into the townspeople outrage, love, disaster, and it swept us off our seats. Omphile was so outstanding that I recommend seeing this play.

Itsoseng written and performed by Omphile Molusi.

Itsoseng appears at Shakespeare Theatre at Navy Pier until June 20, tickets are $28-$38 and may be purchased by visiting the theatre's website at www.chicagoshakes.com or by calling the Theatre's Box Office at 312-595-5600. You can also try hot tix and see if you can purchase tickets for that last minute purchase decision.

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Meeting

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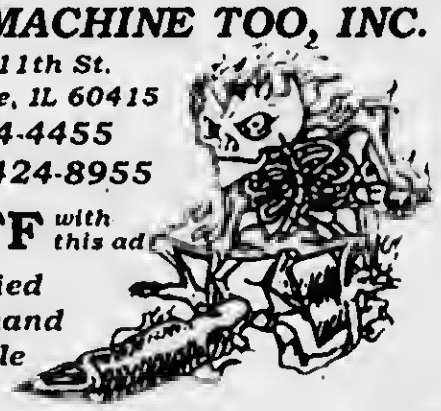

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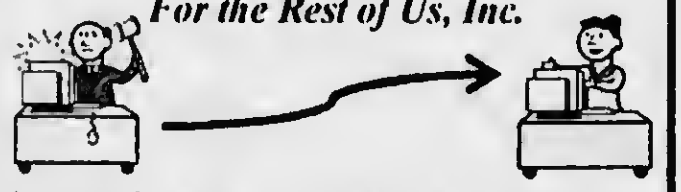

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Or call Mary Pat
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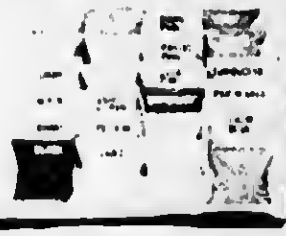

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Sixth Annual Garden Walk Fundraiser

Orland Park Open Lands Hosts Sixth Annual Garden Walk Fundraiser- Twelve fabulous gardens in the Old Orland/Tuckaway areas, including two businesses and a village owned and maintained garden will be showcased on Sunday, June 27 at the sixth annual Open Lands of Orland Park Garden Walk. The event is open from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The tour begins at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 South Ravinia where attendees will receive an event program, directions and a wristband to enter the gardens. Light refreshments are included in the ticket price. The public is invited to support the Open Lands of Orland Park Garden Walk through different levels of patron sponsorships. An Orchid Sponsorship is $100, a Rose Sponsorship is $50 and the Daisy Sponsorship is $25. The names of all patron sponsors will be listed in the event program. Tickets are $15 per person. Advance tickets are available at the Cashier's Office in the Frederick I. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. They may also be purchased at Jim Melka's Landscape and Garden Center, 11606 West 179th Street, Mokena, Illinois. Tickets may also be purchased at the event. Ted Biernacki of Ted's Greenhouse in Tinley Park will be available throughout the day to answer your lawn and gardening questions. This year there will be the first "Green" Birdhouse Contest. Further information about the Orland Park Garden Walk is available by calling (708)403-6140.

Are You a Nascar Fan?

Is your nose pinned to the TV screen every time a Nascar race is broadcast? Well then, the weekend of June 25-26 is JUST FOR YOU! An exact replica of the Carl Edwards No. 99 Ford Fusion will be on display at Rizza Ford, at 8100 West 159th Street, in Orland Park, IL. There will be prizes, raffles, refreshments - fun for the whole family. Come for the fun - stay for the fun from 5pm til 9pm. For information call 708-403-0300.

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Attorney Michael J. Maslanka, 312-641-2424 or michael.maslanka@sgmclegal.com

Attorney for over 25 years. A graduate of Brother Rice High School, also graduate of St. Xavier University. A member of Illinois State Bar Association, Chicago Bar Association, and others. Attorney Registration #06188163 Professional Liability Insurance w/C.N.A.

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Village View

We serve our community with good news!

FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 12 | June 15, 2010

Lagoon Fire on the Water proved a success

The Oak Forest Park District's Lagoon Fire on the Water was a big success. The night included five firepits IN the lagoon, balloon artists, Ice Cup concessions, a s'more station, and 1950's themed background music. The event was free to everyone and provided the community a chance to come out and spend some time together. Despite weather conditions throughout the day, there were clear skies for the event that night ensuring people a chance to sit and enjoy the fires. With the help of a hard working maintenance crew, dedicated park district employees, and a great turn out from the community members, the evening turned out wonderfully.

Oak Forest e-Briefs

City recognizes Investigator James Emmett and Lieutenant Mark Jensen

The Oak Forest Police Department recently recognized Investigator James Emmett and Lieutenant Mark Jensen for commendable work in arresting the perpetrator of three residential burglaries in Oak Forest, Crestwood and Mokena.

City co-hosts Bike After Work Party on June 17 at Beggars Pizza

Celebrate Bike to Work Week without the soul-deadening have-to-get -to-work part. Join Friends of the Calumet-Sag Trail, the City of Oak Forest, and the Active Transportation Alliance at Beggars Pizza for food and drink, giveaways courtesy of Active Trans, and gobs of socializing and trail talk'. Open to anyone who bikes or walks to work, the train, to school, to live'

Vehicle stickers on sale now

Vehicle stickers are on sale at City Hall. Senior citizens, 65 and older, receive three complimentary vehicle stickers per household. Although the deadline to purchase stickers is June 30, existing stickers expire on July 15, 2010. Those purchasing stickers this year will be allowed to do so without penalty until July 16.

Water conservation measures are in effect

Odd/even sprinkling rules are in effect every year from now through September 15. Sprinkling is allowed from 7 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 11 p.m. on an odd/even basis.

Question of the Week

Did the city recently increase water rates?

Yes. As part of a multi-year, two-tier water rate structure and a multi-year rate increase for sanitary sewer service, water and sanitary sewer rates for all residents have recently increased. Tier-one water rates increased 10 percent and tier-two water rates increased 15 percent. Sewer rates also increased 15 percent. The new rate structure was created to match rate increases implemented by the City of Chicago – our water source – and to help pay for critical water system improvements.

Village of Tinley Park Summer Events

For more information regarding free Summer Events, call (708) 444-5678 or visit www.tinleypark.org

. Music in the Plaza

7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Select Saturdays at the Oak Park Avenue Train Station Parking Lot, 173rd Place and Oak Park Avenue

June 19 - The Business

July 10 - Bernie Glim and the Country Roads Band

July 24 - 4-Cast

July 31 - Heartless

August 7 - The Walk-ins

August 14 - King Snakes

Movies in the Plaza. On Select Saturdays

Pre-show activities begins at 7 p.m. and movies begin on giant screen at dusk

Oak Park Avenue Train Station Parking Lot - 173rd Place and Oak Park Avenue

June 26 - Little Big League

July 17 - Surf's Up

August 21 - Toy Story

Caribbean Beach Block Party

Sunday, July 18. Noon to 7p.m. Along Oak Park Avenue from 171st Street to Hickory Street

This free event includes live music on two stages, rides, attractions, classic car show, and a wide variety of food and drinks, and much, much more.

Oak Forest approves amendment to minors ordinance

The Oak Forest City Council recently approved a request by the Police Department to amend ordinance 133 Offenses By or Against Minors of the city code to comply with changes implemented by the Secretary of State earlier this year. Per the amendment, the definition of a minor is now "any person under 18 years of age" as opposed to "any person under 17 years of age" in the curfew (133.01) section and "any person above the age of 11 but not yet 18 years of age" as opposed to "any person above the age of 11 but not yet 19 years of age" in the parental responsibility (133.03) section. According to the Secretary of State, 17-year-old citizens are now considered juveniles by the criminal justice system for misdemeanor offenses and will be subject to the juvenile court act, except in the most severe cases. Seventeen-year-old citizens will be processed as adults if they are charged with felony acts.

Curfew hours in the City of Oak Forest are as follows: Saturday and Sunday from 12:01 a.m. to 6 a.m. and Monday through Thursday from 10:30 p.m. to 6 a.m. The city code is updated monthly on the city's Web site at www.oak-forest.org.

Sal Estrada, of the American Legion Orland Memorial Post #111, leads the presentation of colors as Pack 383 scouts, leaders and family members stand

Cub Scout Pack 383 Salutes Nation's Military, guests included two former 383 scouts

Orland Park Cub Scout Pack 383 devoted its recent pack meeting to our nation's military. Colors were presented by members of the pack's charter organization, American Legion Orland Memorial Post #111, along with current military, including two former Pack 383 scouts who now serve with the US Army.

"Ours is a very military oriented pack," said Cubmaster Gerry Klotz. "Our families have collected for Operation Support Our Troops Illinois. The boys have sent care packages and letters to those currently serving. Our boys provide an honor guard for the veterans on Memorial Day and we are chartered by Orland Park's American Legion Post. And, Pack 383 has every branch of service represented among its parents with the exception of the Coast Guard," Klotz noted.

The evening included a presentation by US Army Sergeant First Class Dave Ziolkowski, an Orland Park police officer, who recently returned from Afghanistan.

After the presentation, the scouts visited stations to learn proper flag handling, try on equipment and taste MRE:s, try night vision goggles and make cards and letters for those serving overseas.

"Assistant Den Leader Ron Allrendt, a former Marine, planned the evening with Veterans Commission Secretary Gail Blummer. The boys were thrilled to see everything close up, try the MRE:s and talk to two former Pack 383 scouts who are now serving in the US Army, Specialist Chris Pratl and Specialist Jordan Legris," Klotz said. Further information about Orland Park Cub Scout Pack 383 is available at www.orlandpack383.org.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 12 | June 15, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Rep Lipinski and Rep Brady clad in a Blackhawks jersey and bearing cheese steaks

Rep. Lipinski celebrates Blackhawks' Stanley Cup win

Today, lifelong Chicago Blackhawks fan Rep Dan Lipinski (IL-3) congratulated the team on ending its 49-year Stanley Cup drought in spectacular fashion with a dramatic victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Wednesday night in Philadelphia With Rep Lipinski having won his wager with Rep Robert Brady of Philadelphia on the outcome of the series, Rep Brady delivered cheese steaks from Geno's Steaks in South Philly to Rep Lipinski's office on Thursday at noon and posed for photos wearing a Blackhawks jersey

"Since I was a kid wearing my Blackhawks jersey and listening to Lloyd Pettit on the radio, the Stanley Cup has been the dream, now that dream has been fulfilled," Rep Lipinski said "It was an amazing game, an incredible series, and an unbelievable season Last Sunday the excitement and noise at the United Center was incredible, and the way the Hawks played that night convinced me they would finish it off in Game 6 To take the Cup on the road is especially tough, but this team never stopped believing and never stopped fighting Going into the series, it was clear they were the superior squad But talent isn't everything, and the Hawks showed tremendous heart and resilience when it counted most They shrugged off the past, silenced the doubters, and secured a place for themselves in the history books It is great to see the city celebrate our Blackhawks!"

Worth Park District announces upcoming schedule

Family Fun Series

Warmer days are here so come join the Worth Park District for our Family Fun Series as we play and watch Movies in the park We'll be spending every Thursday of the summer at one of our different parks in Worth Bring the whole family out for crafts, activities and games as we have some fun in the park Nothing says summer like an evening with Worth Park District watching a movie outdoors in the park! Join the Worth Park District for a free movie in the park on Thursday, June 17 at 8:00 PM Sharp We'll be watching the movie Monsters vs Aliens at Gale Moore Park on 109th and Nordica Avenue Make sure to bring a blanket, lawn chairs, and treats as you enjoy an evening under the stars Don't forget to also join us on Thursday, June 24 at Gale Moore Park on 109th and Nordica Avenue from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM All ages are welcome to join the Worth Park District for this free event

Summer Day Camp

Come and spend those hot summer days with the Worth Park District! Activities are age appropriate and a whole lot of fun! Summer day camp offers a wide variety of activities for boys and girls including field trips every week to different area locations, exciting onsite activities, our once-a-week Barbecue day, and pool days 2 times a week! Day camp is for children ages 3 – 12 and is available Monday through Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM with extended hours available from 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM Session I begins Monday, June 14 - July 2 Session II begins Monday, July 5 – July 23 Session III begins Monday, July 26 – August 13 Summer Day Camp registration is going on now at the Terrace Centre on 11500 S Beloit

White Sox Patio Party

Join us as we travel to U.S. Cellular Field, we will attend the 'pre-game patio' party followed by watching the White Sox, take on the Twins The patio party is a 2 hour all you can eat ribs, fried chicken, Cajun chicken, hamburgers and hot dog buffet which also includes all you can drink beer, wine and pop for 2 hours! This trip leaves from the Terrace Centre (11500 S Beloit) on Thursday, August 12 at 4:30 PM This trip is for all ages and costs $ 50.00 for children 13 & under and Senior Citizens and $ 60.00 for adults The deadline to register is August 5

Jazzercise

Join us for Fitness and Fun! Get energized with a complete cardiovascular and muscle-toning workout from a certified Jazzercise Instructor Enjoy choreography to music you love Exercise mat is required and hand held weights are optional Jazzercise meets on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays from 9:20 AM – 10:20 AM at the Worth Park District's Terrace Centre (11500 S Beloit) and is for ages 16 and up All fitness levels are welcome Daily Registration on site is available 15 minutes prior to class Your first class is free Jazzercise is having a Summer Special with 3 months of classes for only $ 99.00 The monthly Easy Fit Ticket price is $ 36.00 There is a one-time $ 35.00 joining fee For more information and an explanation of fees please contact Karen at (708) 301-6286 or karenzjazz@comcast.net

Whirly Ball

Join Park District for the adult only trip to play @ Whirly Ball This fun filled and competitive trip leaves from the Terrace Centre on Saturday, June 26 from 5:00 PM – 10:00 PM and is for adults 21 and older The cost for this trip is $ 40.00 The deadline to register is June 19 For more information regarding these events, call (708) 448-7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org

Good As New Thrift Store Manager, Karey Wentz reviews cash register procedures with Assistant Manager, Sean Hill

Sertoma Centre's Good As New Thrift Store appoints Karey Wentz Manager

Sertoma Centre, Inc is very pleased to announce that Karey Wentz is now the Manager of the Good As New Thrift Store in Matteson, IL. Ms Wentz is very excited about this exceptional opportunity which allows her to utilize her extensive retail experience to benefit individuals with disabilities Daily on the job a few days, Karey is already developing some unique ideas to increase awareness and revenue Her motivation comes from knowledge that all proceeds from the thrift store benefit programs at Sertoma Centre, Inc Celebrating its 3rd anniversary this year the thrift store was recently redesigned. Karey plans to continue that forward momentum with several creative shopping and savings promotions for our customers

The Good As New Thrift Store features an extensive collection of the latest merchandise fresh from the 2010 Housewares Show With sons and daughters going off to college soon, getting them set-up in a dorm or apartment is a costly undertaking, start your shopping here first The New Is Good department has brand new merchandise and unbeatable prices The inventory on this product won't last long so be sure to stop by soon

Established as a means of supplementing the programs of Sertoma Centre, not only does Good as New give 100% of its proceeds back to the Centre, it also provides retail training opportunities for Sertoma Centre's program participants who wish to gain the skills needed for work in the community

We welcome you to shop, volunteer your time, or donate new and gently used items at the thrift store located at 4331 Lincoln Highway, Matteson, IL. Phone 708-481-5627 Store hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 10am-5pm, Tuesday and Thursday, 10am-7pm

Sertoma Centre, Inc is a nationally-accredited, not-for-profit agency that provides services to over 650 individuals with developmental, physical and emotional disabilities, and or mental illness For more information, to schedule a tour, volunteer or to make a donation, please contact Melanie Jones, director of advancement and communications, Sertoma Centre, 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803 (708) 730-6206, www.sertomacentre.org

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 12 | June 15, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

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Attached is a photo of Rep Lipinski and Rep Brady clad in a Blackhawks jersey and bearing cheese steaks

Blue Island Happenings

"Curb Appeal" Workshop

Sue Powell, of "InFocus Design" has 24 years of experience and an innate inventive creativity which shows itself each time she transforms the ordinary into the extraordinary! Specializing in home staging, she quarterbacks a professional team which includes carpenters, remodelers, window experts and landscapers, all of whom have one goal, to give each home they deal with that extra something that makes it a stand out

When Wednesday, June 16, 7 00 p m , free, but tickets are required for admission, available at main desk

Where Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St , 708-388-1078

Free Concert & Dinner

Calling anyone over 50 years of age to a concert and dinner, sponsored by the Lighthouse Church Call the Senior Office at 708-396-7085 to reserve

When Wednesday, June 16, 7 p m

Where Salvation Army, 2900 W 127th St , Blue Island

Medicare to Participate in State Multi-payer Health Reform Efforts

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today invited states to apply for participation in the Multi-payer Advanced Primary Care Practice Demonstration, an initiative in which Medicare will join Medicaid and private insurers in state-based efforts to improve the delivery of primary care and lower health care costs

"Advanced Primary Care practices are one of our most promising models for improving the quality of care and bringing down health care costs across the country," said HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius "By having Medicare participate in these demonstration projects, for the first time ever, we'll help these innovative models spread and take another big step towards building a health care system that works better for all Americans"

An Advanced Primary Care (APC) practice, commonly referred to as the patient-centered medical home, is a leading model for efficient management and delivery of quality health care services APC practices promote accessible, continuous, and coordinated family-centered care utilizing a team approach and emphasizing prevention, health information technology, care coordination and shared decision making among participating patients and their providers

The demonstration is an opportunity to assess the effect of advanced primary care practice, when supported jointly by Medicare Medicaid, and private health plans, on

The safety, effectiveness timeliness, and efficiency of health care, Assuring access and appropriate utilization of services covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and private health plans, while lowering expenditures, The ability of beneficiaries to participate effectively in decisions concerning their care, and The delivery of care consistent with evidence-based guidelines

"This demonstration will mark the first time that Medicare, Medicaid and private insurers will join in a partnership with states to transform health care delivery," said Marilyn Tavenner, acting CMS administrator and chief operating officer "Enabling public and private providers to work together will provide a valuable opportunity to strengthen our health care system and improve the quality of care for people with Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance Improved efficiencies in the system could mean providers will be able to spend more time with their patients, provide higher quality care, and better coordinate that care with other medical professionals"

To be eligible, states will need to demonstrate that they can meet certain requirements, including having a state agency responsible for implementing the program, being ready to make payments to participating practices six months after being selected for participation, and having mechanisms in place to connect patients to community-based resources

CMS anticipates making awards to up to six states and will perform an independent evaluation of the projects conducted under this demonstration

Demonstrations like the Multi-Payer Advanced Primary Care Practice allow CMS to test and validate innovative new models of health care delivery and to translate insights and lessons learned into future policy and program redesign This demonstration is an example of the sort of programs that CMS will carry out under the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, which was authorized in the Affordable Care Act and will be in place no later than Jan 1, 2011 The new center will allow CMS to significantly expand the portfolio of innovative demonstrations that will drive cost effectiveness and quality improvement in the health care system during the coming years

Information on the demonstration, including the solicitation can be found on the demonstration Web site www cms hhs gov/DemoProjectsEvalRpts/MD/itemdetail asp?itemID=CMS1230016

Midlothian Library Teen Summer Activities

Teen "Scare Up A Good Book" programs and activities will be held at Midlothian Public Library, weekly on Tuesdays at 6 30 p m during June and July

To kick-off a summer of scary reading, Midlothian Public Library will be hosting the author of the frightemingly funny book, Fang Face on Tuesday, June 15th at 6 30 p m Come hear Norm Cowie engage us in a lively and funny discussion of Fang Face, as well as the sequel to this smash hit! Join us for, fun, refreshments, book signing and prizes!

Teen Book Bites & Bytes Vampires, will be a discussion of YA books with vampires as the central characters, such as the Twilight Series, the Blue Bloods Novels, and the Chronicles of Vladimir Tod Share what you've been reading and hear about other teen favorites on Tuesday, June 22nd, at 6 30p m

An Anime Art Workshop will be held on Tuesday, June 29th at 6 30 p m Comic book illustrator, Jared Day, provides instruction on the techniques used to create awesome Japanese animation also known as "anime " Come and keep what you draw!

Call the Reference Desk at the Midlothian Public Library (708) 532-2027 to register or for additional information

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 1 | July 6, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Secretary of State Mobile Unit will be in Burbank

Secretary of State Jesse White, in cooperation with Stickney Township Senior Center at Burbank, is offering drivers a chance to renew their driver's license, obtain a duplicate or corrected license or obtain an Illinois identification card.

An applicant renewing a current Illinois driver's license or identification card need only present a current valid driver's license or identification card. If the applicant is applying for either a duplicate or corrected driver's license or identification card the applicant must present 2 forms of identification. To find out what documents are considered acceptable identification and the fees involved, please call 217 782-7044 or visit the Illinois Secretary of States website www.cyberdriveillinois.com/

Secretary of State Jesse White's Mobile Unit will be available at: Stickney Township Senior Center at Burbank, 7745 S. Leamington Ave., Burbank, 60459 July 20, 2010 at 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Oak Lawn Public Library holds summers treats

Summer Lunchtime Storyhour

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a "Lunchtime at the Library" family program on Monday, July 12 from noon to 1 p.m. Children, preschool age and up, and their families are invited to bring a sack lunch and enjoy stories from different cultures. Afterwards, young participants will make a craft. The library provides free water and lemonade. No advance registration required.

For more information about this and other youth activities, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Free Teen Movie Screening: Clue

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free movie screening of "Clue" for students in grades 6-10 on Monday, July 12 at 6 p.m. In this 1985 film based upon a popular board game, six guests are invited to a strange house and must cooperate with the staff to solve a murder mystery. Rated: PG. Running time: 94 minutes. This movie will be followed by a discussion and snacks

For more information, call the Youth Services Department, 708-422-4990.

ISAC Offers Free Advice for College-Bound Students

Representatives of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) Corps will be on-site at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., to meet with college-bound students and their families on Tuesday July 20 from 2-4 p.m. Interested parties are encouraged to stop in. No appointment is necessary.

The ISAC offers a comprehensive array of programs and services. They administer most of the key state and federal grant, scholarship, loan and prepaid tuition programs available to postsecondary students. For additional information about the ISAC, visit www.collegezone.com.

For additional ISAC dates, call the library, 708-422-4990.

Free Movie: The Last Station

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free movie screening of "The Last Station" on Wednesday, July 21 at 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

This 2009 historical drama illustrates Russian author Leo Tolstoy's struggle to balance fame and wealth with his commitment to a life devoid of material things. During his final days, Tolstoy's family and followers are at odds as to whether the author should allow the copyrights of his works to benefit his family or deed all of his writings to the people so that it will become public domain. Starring Christopher Plummer and Helen Mirren. Based on a novel by Jay Parini. Rated: R . Running time: 112 min.

This movie is one of 13 titles featured in the library's weekly "Reel Books" series of films that are based on a book that runs June through August 2010.

For more information, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Evergreen Park Library holds family services

Water Colors at the Evergreen Park Public Library! Call 708-422-8522 for the following programs.

On Thursdays: July 8, 15, & 22 at 10:00 am at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy, youth, ages 4 through 8, will learn how to draw different underwater scenes using pencils and crayons. Registration required.

Pirate Bingo Tournament at the Evergreen Park Public Library

All ages are invited to play pirate picture bingo on Wednesday, July 7 at 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm, and 6:30 pm at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy. Registration required.

Knot Jewelry at the Evergreen Park Public Library!

On Wednesday, June 7 from 2:00-3:00 pm at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy , teens, grades 6-12, will learn how to make beautiful jewelry out of knots! All materials will be provided. Registration required.

Employment University at the Evergreen Park Library

Representatives from the Illinois Department of Employment Security present a series of four workshops on networking, job searching, 21st century resumes and applications, and interviewing techniques, at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 S. Troy on Mondays, July 8, 15, 22, & 29 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Please register for each individual session.

Magnets at the Evergreen Park Public Library!

On Thursday, July 8 from 3:00-4:00 pm at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy, teens, grades 6-12, will learn about the types of properties of magnets and how magnetism works. Registration required. For more information, call (708) 422-8522.

Water Games with the Evergreen Park Public Library!

On Thursday, July 8 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Yukich Fields, 8900 S. Kedzie , the Evergreen Park Public Library invites teens, grades 6-12, to play water games. Permission slip required.

South African Adventure at the E.P. Library

Adults are invited to the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy, on Thursday, July 8 at 7:00 pm to explore South Africa through the travels of EP Library's own Chris Raap! Registration required.

Teen Movie at the EP Library!

On Friday, July 9 from 2:00-4:30 pm at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy, teens, grades 6-12, are invited to watch Pirates of the Carihbean : Curse of the Black Pearl on our big screen. Please bring your own snacks. Registration required.

Oak Lawn Artist Group hosting a showing at Oak Lawn Library

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., is now hosting an "Oak Lawn Artists Group Show" featuring dozens of original paintings, drawings, photographs and sculptures created by 22 Oak Lawn artists. The participating artists include: Linda Atkins, Nancy Canellis, Nancy Carley, Richard Forkin, Karin Rae Fox, Debra Garelli, Jenny Gemhala, Brigit Goudie, Jim Guenther, Julie Heck, Virginia Jachna, Henry P. Keane, Michael C. King, Lawrence D. Kuhn, Dan Linehan, Joshua Lopatin, Robert Mayer, Bridget Mitchell, Edward Pliska, Jan Strumpf, Theresa Strumpf and Ronald Williams. Their works will be on exhibit through July 2010.

Artists living in and around Oak Lawn who wish to participate in future art shows may pick up an Art Gallery application at the library's Reception Booth. For more information, call 708-422-4990

Don't forget to let us know what is happening in your towns, email us at vvnew@sbcglobal.net!

Get to know your Editor/Publisher

Annette Dorothy Dixon, born in Chicago, attended St. Martin Catholic Grammar School and learned at that school how to become a leader and dedicated her life to become an activist.

It was in the 50's when Annette started the Junior League of the Legion of Mary while attending sixth grade. She also developed the school library for St. Martin School. By the time she was in high school at Loretto Englewood High School and St. Martin Commercial, she was serving Christmas Dinners for the service men at the USO in downtown Chicago.

Many of her childhood experiences guided her for politics. In 1962, she was one of two Republican area leaders in Chicago's 18 Ward and in 1976, Annette became a member of the Italian American Labor Council. During Annette's political career, she was able to run for Trustee in Oak Lawn, became an elected candidate for State Representative in 1985, and 3rd Congressional Area Leader for Robert Dole for President.

In 1991, Annette's love for the Military prompted her to seek out petitions for signature to present to Chicago Aldermen for a USO at Midway Airport. It was through her effort and determination that there is a USO to this day at Midway Airport in Chicago.

As a honors graduate of Moraine Valley Community College, with an associate degree in Liberal Arts in 1979, she completed four years of college and received a degree in Mass Communication from Governors State University in 1981. She completed 14 credits toward a Masters Degree but didn't finish after deciding to purchase a local newspaper in 1983.

Annette has been publisher/editor of Village View Publications, Inc. since 1983 and has been awarded, nominated and received many Journalism awards. Recently she has been nominated for the IL/WI Leonardo Da Vinci Award for communications from the Sons of Italy.

Currently, she is co founder of an Italian American Women's Club on the southside of Chicago in Evergreen Park, IL. The organization has authored two books and is currently working on their third book.

As Annette is currently publisher/editor of four newspapers, she is a world traveler and continues to be an activist by consulting with leaders throughout seventeen communities and throughout 5 continents.

Editor's Note: I would like to thank Linda Steiner for putting this together for me and asking me for my permission to print this information. I would like to honor those who have accomplished their goals and successes in life, please contact me at vvnew@sbcglobal.net

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Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

We normally do not mention Missing Persons since our paper only comes out twice a month. Hopefully she is found before this issue is out on Tuesday, July 6.

Nicole Buckley was last seen Tuesday near 83rd Street and Kedvale Avenue, according to a missing-persons alert from Wentworth Area detectives.

Nicole Buckley, 15, was last seen Tuesday near 83rd Street and Kedvale Avenue. Buckley is white, 5-foot-1 and 118 pounds with long black hair.

Anyone with information is asked to call Wentworth Area Special Victims Unit detectives at (312) 747-8385.

I am Nicole Buckley

Pappas Honors Chicagoland's Ethnic Chambers of Commerce

Chambers of Commerce and business organizations representing many of Chicagoland's ethnic communities were honored today in the office of Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas.

" Cook County is as diverse an area as our country has, and our ethnic communities are devoted to maintaining themselves and honoring their various heritages," Pappas said. "That traditionally is done with music, song, dance, food and language.

"But the ties that bind are also economic. These organizations help keep ethnic heritage alive by supporting companies owned by members of their communities and encouraging their people to do business with them. Strengthening individual ethnic groups makes for a stronger Chicagoland, which we recognize and honor."

Representatives of 49 ethnic chambers of commerce and business organizations were to receive Awards of Excellence from Pappas in a reception held at 3 p.m. in her office in Room 112 of the Cook County Building , 118 N. Clark Street in Chicago .

The communities represented included African-American, Albanian, Arab, Asian, Australian, Austrian, Belgian, British, Bulgarian, Canadian, Chinese, Czech, Danish, Finnish, French, Ghanaian, German, Greek, Hispanic, Indian, Iranian, Irish, Israeli, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latino, Lithuanian, Macedonian, Malaysian, Mexican, Norwegian, Palestinian, Pakistani, Filipino, Polish, Puerto Rican, Russian, Romanian, Scottish, Serbian, Swedish, Turkish and Ukrainian.

Oak Lawn Garden Club dedicated a park bench

Tribute to Roberta Janet on June 9th, the Oak Lawn Garden Club dedicated a park bench, at Wolfe Wildlife Refuge in memory of Roberta Janet. Gathered were members of the garden club and family members. Roberta was president of the Oak Lawn Garden Club from April 1993 to 1998. A dynamic figure began by starting out with field trips, a garden contest, an annual garden walk as well as a perennial plant sale which is open to the public. Sadly Roberta passed away in 2008, but her enthusiasm for the club and her ideas have well been ignited and are being carried on by the club members. Next time you're at the Wolfe Wildlife Refuge stop and rest on Roberta's bench.

Eclectic Trivia from the Publisher

by Annette Dixon

Recently I received a phone call from an irate person who was upset about a Federal Lawsuit. I decide to write something regarding two lawsuits in which I am aware.

Lawsuits cost the tax payers big money, says the caller. The two huge law suites were won recently. One was in Evergreen Park and the other was in Chicago.

A resident in Oak Lawn filed a discrimination lawsuit against Cook County. She charged that after they have terminated her, they had hired a male in her place. She was awarded 4.1 million dollars. This person was a resident in Oak Lawn and the case number was 08CV2803 in the Federal Ct.

Another one was in Evergreen Park and that person was awarded 1 Million plus. The caller was concerned about the taxes going up because of these awards in those communities. Check with your Mayor and ask them about the questions regarding increases in taxes because of lawsuits. Good Question from our Readers?

Kudos for Mayor Richard Daley who recently spoke before the gay, lesbian, transgender community. He avoided speaking in favor of gay rights or against any new laws that are now in the house for the gay community. What he did emphasize is the need for community education for gays, lesbians and transgender.

Mayor Daley on July 1st, and the Chicago City Council voted on a ordinance for the city to ban guns. Only one gun can be in possession, but the person can have more than one gun registered, with a safety lock on them. They may have the one in the home.

It must be only in the home and if a convicted person is in possession of one, there will be a jail sentence if caught. Chicago is the first city to enact on such a bill.

If you have the time, come to the Chicago Cultural Center for free afternoon entertainment, do and use your CTA, RTA, Metro, and Metra pass if you're a senior.

On Tuesdays at 12:00 in the main room, afternoon Cafe there usually is a jazz band. Also on Wednesdays in Preston Bradley Hall, there are various duo teams or a concerto, pianist, concert music, all free to the public. The seating arrangement is about 300 so you must arrive early in order to get a chair.

The Cultural Center is located at 78 East Washington St. (Michigan and Washington.)

Attn Local members 150 and 2. TO THE UNION OFFICIALS International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150 and the Laborers' International Union of North American Local 2 WHY STRIKE!

The members will be suffering if this strike is not settled. I had heard that the union is only negotiating for rightful benefits. Which means what? Hopefully the union dues are covering the cost of insurance benefits. Oh and don't forget you can also ask President Obama for a stimulus package.

This doesn't make much sense for in another few years the employers will be responsible for paying the insurance, which probably will leave the unions free and clear of all obligations.

All this is doing now is leaving families in a lurch. Sure I remember when my husband worked for management of several truck lines. The teamsters were on strike every two years. If it wasn't the drivers it would be the dockmen. By the time the employees received their raises and benefits, they were at a loss because they would lose two weeks to 6 months of work.

Another factor the union dues would increase after a strike. My husband was a union member for the first five years when he started to work for a truck line and then decided to go management. Even when he went non union, he was still managing union personnel. Figure it!

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Depression Symptoms Show Little Change During the Development and Progression of Alzheimer's Disease

Study suggests depression is a risk factor and not an early sign of Alzheimer's Disease

Depression is commonly reported in people with Alzheimer's disease and its precursor, mild cognitive impairment, with several studies suggesting having a history of major depression may nearly double your risk of developing dementia later in life. However, it has been unclear if depression is a symptom of the disease or a potential cause of the disease.

To study the relationship between Alzheimer's and depression, researchers at Rush University Medical Center tracked symptoms of depression during the transition from no cognitive impairment to dementia and found that depressive symptoms show little change during the development and progression of Alzheimer's disease. The study will be published in the July 6 issue of Neurology, the medical journal of the American Academy of Neurology.

"Our study suggests that depression is truly a risk factor for Alzheimer's disease," said lead author Robert S. Wilson, PhD, senior neuropsychologist, Rush Alzheimer's Disease Center, and a professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences at Rush. "If depression was an early sign of the disease, we would expect to see it increase prior to diagnosis and as the disease progresses. Our study found very little change."

"Depression should not be viewed as an inevitable part of Alzheimer's disease. If a patient with Alzheimer's has depression, the depression should be treated," said Wilson.

The study involved participants in the Chicago Health and Aging Project, a longitudinal study of risk factors for Alzheimer's disease involving a population of older adults on Chicago's south side. At three year intervals, the entire population completed a brief self-report measure of depressive symptoms and clinical evaluations for Alzheimer's disease.

Initial analyses focused on a group of 357 individuals who developed Alzheimer's disease during the course of the study. The study found a barely perceptible increase in depressive symptoms, a rate of 0.04 symptoms per year, during six to seven years of observation before the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and no change during two to three years of observation after the diagnosis.

Because dementia may reduce the accuracy of self-report, in a subgroup of 340 participants, researchers conducted additional analyses of change in depressive symptoms by interviewing family, friends and other who were close to the study participants. Neither Alzheimer's disease nor its precursor, mild cognitive impairment, was associated with change in depressive symptoms during a mean of three years of observation.

The results were consistent across all demographics. There was no evidence that sex, age, education or race modified the trajectory of depressive symptoms before or after Alzheimer's disease was diagnosed.

"Here is this terrible disease that robs people of who they are and their ability to function and yet it doesn't make them depressed," said Wilson. "Alzheimer's may disrupt the ability to have prolonged bouts of negative emotions, in much the same way it disrupts many other activities."

The study authors suggest additional studies of patients with Alzheimer's disease for longer periods to determine if depressive symptoms may eventually decrease as the disease becomes more severe.

In addition, researchers at Rush continue to look at why depression increases the risk of Alzheimer's disease.

The study was supported by funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH)/ National Institute on Aging (NIA). Co-authors include G.M. Hoganson, BS; K.B. Rajan, PhD; L.L. Barnes, PhD; C.F. Mendes de Leon, PhD; and D.A. Evans, MD.

Possible Hazards of Sunscreen Products

COMMISSIONER FRANK AVILA METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO

This summer millions of people will head out to the beach and with safety on their minds, cover themselves in sunscreen or sunblock to protect against harmful UV rays. However, little do they know, the very product they are using could hold hidden dangers.

There are 17 primary active ingredients approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that make up the majority of UV-protection creams sold in the U.S. Two of these ingredients are minerals, zinc oxide and titanium dioxide. The other ingredients are chemicals sucloctinoxate,oxybenzone and octisalate, although the chemicals are often referred to by different names.

Each of these two classes of ingredients have their own health concerns associated with them. The largest concerns about the mineral ingredients are focused on the new, nano-formulations of zinc oxide and titanium dioxide. Studies have shown that these tiny particles, around 1 billionth of a meter in diameter, are better for blocking UV rays and have been shown in studies not to penetrate healthy skin. Skeptics argue that there has simply not been enough research to discover the effects of nanoparticulate use on the human body.

Some chemical ingredients can penetrate the skin and may act as endocrine disrupters, affecting hormones and reproductive functions. There is also increasing fear concerning the effects of these chemical ingredients when they enter the water environment. Sunscreen and sunblock are often introduced directly into rivers, lakes and streams when the people usingt he prodnct decide to take a swim..

The accumulation of UV filters in water bodies worries some biologists because they can come in contact with the fish and affect their health. Researchers from the University of Riverside tested the effects of UV filtering chemical, oxybenzone on a pair of fish species, finding it could impair reproductive abilities, but only at very high doses.

In the Environmental Working Group's (www.ewg.org) 2010 fourth annual Sunscreen Guide, only 39 of 500 sunscreens examined were recommended. Keeping potentially harmful chemicals out of our water initially is simpler and less expensive than having to remove those chemicals later. Healthy people and healthy water go hand-in-hand when we make good decisions about personal care product use.

News from MetroSouth

When it comes to keeping their bodies "tuned-up," men are the weaker sex. Only 57% of men visited the doctor within the past year, compared to 74% of women. Men are also hospitalized more often for preventable conditions such as congestive heart failure and diabetes complications.

MetroSouth is urging their communities' children, wives, aunts, cousins and neighbors to band together to get the special man in their life to the doctor.

This campaign comes at the same time when the national government in partnership with the Ad Council is launching a similar campaign nationwide.

Screening recommendations for men were developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. These have been adopted by MetroSouth and are available in a convenient folder format by calling 708-489-7925.

For example, men over 50 years of age who have every smoked should be screened for an aortic aneurysm. Furthermore, men should have their body mass index, blood pressure, cholesterol and sugar levels checked annually.

As an additional incentive for men to visit the doctor, MetroSouth Medical Center is offering a family gift for every man that has a tune-up before Labor Day. Appointments can be scheduled at locations throughout the Southland by calling 708 489-7925.

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Hickory Hill Park District makes an announcement

The Hickory Hills Park District is please to announce the winners of this year's Summer Coloring Contest. All entrants should be proud of their submissions. The winners for 2010 are:

Preschool – Jack Hull

Kindergarten – Dominik Kornak

1st Grade – Heidi Heimberg

2nd Grade – Emma Lamb

3rd Grade – Julia Matusevicieius

Congratulations to all of our entrants who participated in the Hickory Hills Park District Summer Coloring Contest. To see the winning pictures please stop by the Cynthia Neal Center, 8047 W. 91st Place, Hickory Hills, IL 60457.

Programs

Change your rainy summer day into days full of rainbows with our Rainy Day Sunshine class. We will be using fun waterproof paints, ribbons and rhinestones to create your very own umbrella, tote bag and visor. Class will be held at Cynthia Neal Center, 8047 W. 91st Place on Wednesday, July 21 from 1:30 – 2:45 p.m. Ages 3-12 years (3 – 6 years must be accompanied by an adult). Fee: $29 Resident; $34 Non-Resident (fee includes all materials).

Magic Class at Krueger Park Rec. Center, 9100 S. 88th Ave. Children will learn a collection of fascinating tricks! Amaze friends and family with tricks that involve cards, ropes, coins, mind reading and more. All materials are provided and each child will receive a magic kit to take home. Class will be held Thursday, July 22 from 5:00 – 5:55 p.m. Ages: 5 – 12 years. Fee: $23 Resident; $28 Non-Resident.

The Hickory Hills Park District offers Parent & Tot Gymnastics, Pre-Nastics, School Age Gymnastic and Cheer class on Mondays. The next session runs from July 26 – August 30. Please call 598-1233 for more information.

Hatha Yoga will be offered on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., July 28 – September 1 for participants 17 years or older at Krueger Park Rec. Center. This class is designed to accommodate beginners and continuing students. Fee: Resident: $45; Non-Resident: $50.

Skate Park Camp is designed to provide the most positive experience possible for young skaters. The program starts with the skaters' desire to learn at any level. With the basic foundation established, the instructors will evaluate each skater's skill level and teach them to set their own individual goals. The instructors will never force a skater into a situation beyond their abilities. The skate camp will held at Kasey Meadow Park, 8047 W. 91st Place. Camp will run from July 29 – July 31 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Ages: 7 – 11 years. Fee: $129 Resident; $139 Non-Resident.

Navy Pier & IMAX trip for teens on Friday, July 23. Trip includes transportation, 5 ride vouchers, lunch voucher, and IMAX movie. Transportation departs from Krueger Park Rec. Center at 9:00 am and returns at 3:30 p.m.

Ages: 11 – 17 years. Fee: $37.

Lion's roar kicks off Christmas in July

The Village Pantry annual "CHRISTMAS IN JULY" fund-raising is off to an early start thanks to a recent donation from the Evergreen Park Lions Club. The Pantry appreciates their generous support.

Village organizations need and rely upon one another to continue their respective mission.

They also rely on Evergreen Park resident membership to share their gift of time. Thank you. Evergreen Park Lions, for assisting the Village Pantry "Christmas in July"

For additional information regarding the E. P. Lions Club, phone Don Sisto at 1708) 425-8172. Phone O'S 1708)-422-8776 for Village Pantry information.

Looking for members for a Mother's Club

St. Laurence High School is pleased to announce the 2010-2011 Mothers Club, the mothers assist the high school with many school functions.

They host the incoming Freshmen Mothers Tea, Trivia night, Bingo, the Mother Son Dance and act as hostess for open house.

The mothers work with the Fathers Club and other school commitees to raise funds for the great work that is being done with the young men at St. Laurence. Good Luck to the new board and CO committees.

American Legion Auxiliary Delegates attend State Convention

The Annual Illinois State Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary will be held in Springfield , Illinois from July 14 thru July 17, 2010.

Four delegates from Evergreen Park American Legion Auxiliary Post 854 will attend. Delegates are Roberta Cirantuneo, Darlene Hudson, Dian Kinahan, and Mary Alice Stalzle.

For more information about the Auxiliary and membership, please contact Dian Kinahan, 708-229-2129.

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Little Bucharest not so little

by Annette Dixon

Walking into a quaint building, opened my eyes to an elegant but casual renovated restaurant. An open area where you can see the cook was highly impressive for an old established business. People who have been in business for three decades usually stay with their original ideas, but not Bramko.

Little Bucharest is at 3661 N. Elston in Chicago, it's a nice drive from the south suburbs, but also nice to take the family. They serve wholesome, healthy food with a touch of Romanian flavor.

Bramko explains, "I like to have people share and taste many different dishes! That is why you can order shared plates". Soup is pretty impressive, "Ciorba de Vacuta" Beef Vegetable Soup, "Ciorba de Perisoare" Meatball Soup, "Ciorba de Burta" Tripe Soup.

I tried their "Mamaliga" Polenta, cream cornmeal topped with sour cream and feta cheese, yummy! Eggplant Spread was different and not a favorite of mine, but if you like fresh mozzarella cheese with tomatoes, red onion, basil, topped with balsamic vinaigrette, Yummy. Don't forget to order the sliced cured meats served with pickles and olives and grain mustard for the kids and Bruschetta toasted bread all this for a total of $13.

Even though I mentioned it was a family restaurant, don't forget to plan for a special dinner with your one and only. You can pick a week day or evening with free entertainment. Just check out their website at www.littlebucharestbistro.com.

They do have the Romanian traditional food; which is good, but their fish and Beer Marinated Ribeye is out of this world. I ordered Chicken Schnitzel, because it's served with noodles! Being Italian descent I still enjoy a pasta or noodle with my meals. I assure you whatever entree you select, you won't be disappointed. This is European Pricing. You pay $5 for soup, salad $3-$7, shared plates are similar to appetizers, at $6 or $7.. Flatbreads, similar to pizza, $9 entrees start at $13 to $19 and desserts $6. Don't forget to ask about their daily specials. You can also ask about their daily special. Monday is the Traditional Romanian Entree $8.00 and Friday is a small plate and a beer for $7.

Little Bucharest Bistro is open seven days week for dinner; Monday through Friday 4 pm to 2 am; Saturday, Noon to 3 am, and Sunday, Noon to 3 am. Street parking is available. For more information, call 773-604-8500.

Bramko called me to tell me that they just opened downtown Chicago on lower Wacker Drive between LaSalle and Clark St., the address is 117 W. Lower Wacker Drive. Call 773-616-0070. They serve sandwiches and wraps, salads and appetizers, hot dogs and hamburgers. The name of the restaurant is Chicago River Cafe. You can ask for Romanian food and tell them I sent you.

Lipinski Helps Pass Bill Expanding Lending to Small Businesses to Create Jobs

The measure cosponsored by Cong. Lipinski and included in H.R. 5297 is the State Small Business Credit Initiative, H.R. 5302. Funding under this new program would be distributed to states based on a formula that takes into account each state's job losses, resulting in substantial funding for Illinois' small businesses.

In addition to providing funding for state lending programs, H.R. 5297 authorizes making up to $30 billion available to community banks and local lending institutions to spur increased lending to small businesses.

This will persuade banks to deploy their own resources and could result in up to $300 billion in loans to small firms. The bill encourages increased lending by local institutions with close ties to their communities by lowering the interest rate they pay on the funds if they increase small-business lending, and increasing the interest rate if they fail to lend. It also includes strong oversight provisions, requires that the money be repaid, and contains incentives that strongly encourage speedy repayment.

The bill will also create jobs by increasing investment in high-tech start-up companies with strong growth potential. Working through Small Business Investment Corporations (SBICs) and similar institutions, the legislation leverages private capital to expand investment in small companies. The U.S. Small Business Administration has long operated an SBIC program to increase investment in start-up companies.

"Nothing is more important right now than job creation," Congressman Lipinski said. "That means we must ensure small businesses have aeeess to credit and the ability to take advantage of new opportunities and hire new workers.

World Largest Block Party Old St. Pat's

Barenaked Ladies and Spoon Perform LIVE

It's time to rock the block at the 26th Annual World's Largest Block Party, a summer tradition in Chicago! This fun-filled event includes live music, great food, and a chance to party with a purpose!

Tickets are $40 in advance; $45 at the gate, if event is not sold-out. There is also a two-night pass available for $70. Admission price includes five FREE beverages of beer, wine, soda or bottled water. Go to www.worldslargestblockparty.com to purchase tickets. Note: The first 2,000 people to purchase SPOON tickets will receive a one-year subscription to Time Out Magazine! Click the Facebook and Twitter icons on our Web site to learn fun trivia facts and up-to-date news on the event.

When: Friday, July 9 and Saturday, July 10 from 5:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Who: Friday Night ~ July 9 Saturday Night ~ July 10

Main Stage Main Stage

Barenaked Ladies (Headliner) Spoon (Headliner)

Kris Allen White Rabbits

Jeffrey David Chris Mills

Angel Taylor Adam Fitz

South Stage South Stage

Out for Hours InRoads

Spazmatics Live Band Karaoke

Celebrity Bartenders will serve beverages from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Main Stage bar. More than 18,500 people will meet, mingle and dance while enjoying two stages of live music, two nights filled with fun, and two blocks of great food at low prices.

The entry gate is located at Madison and Des Plaines in Chicago 's West Loop. Proceeds support the church and the Center for Social Concerns on the Old St. Pat's campus, which houses the following outreach programs: Horizons for Youth; Career Transitions Center of Chicago; and Global Alliance for Africa .

BRIDGEVIEW CHURCH OF GOD

3RD ANNUAL FAMILY FEST & CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, July 17, 2010 ~ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

7801 W. 71st Street, Bridgeview

Rain Date July 24, 2010

* Games * Bounce House * Auction
* Live Gospel Music * Classic Cars
* Pony Rides for the Kids * Food
* Bake Sale * FREE Admission

1 FREE Pony Ride

with this coupon

Crafters * Vendors * Bake Sale

Call Pat 708-567-0659

Orland Park Police Department 2007 Bike Ride

Orland Park Police to Host Community Events

The Orland Park Police Department will host a number of community events during the summer months.

Remaining events for the 2010 summer season include Trailers In The Park at Brown Park on Friday, July 9 and at Mission Hills Park on August 13. Both events will be held from 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Brown Park is located at 14701 Westwood Drive in the Tuckaway Subdivision. Mission Hills Park is located at SanBernardino and Capistrano Drives in the Mission Hills neighborhood.

"We invite everyone in the neighborhood to stop by to meet the officers who patrol the area, learn more about our programs and have a hot dog with us," said Commander John Keating.

Tuesday, August 3 brings National Night Out with this year's observance being the village's fifteenth. During the day on August 3, the Police Department will hold its annual Senior Luncheon at noon at the Orland Park Civic Center .

"Seniors are invited to enjoy a free lunch at the Civic Center ," McCarthy said. Lunch will be served beginning at noon with a brief half hour safety presentation. The event is limited to the first 200 seniors who make reservations by July 31, 2010. Seniors should call 708/364-8149 leaving their name and number of attendees.

The Orland Park Village Center, located at 147th and Ravinia Avenue, will provide the setting for Orland Park's National Night Out evening festivities that begin at 5:00 p.m. on August 3, continuing until 9:00 p.m. Attendees will learn more about the department's many programs, DARE and school resource officers, bike patrol and traffic units.

"This is a summer favorite in Orland Park ," said DARE Officer Charles Barth who oversees the village's observance. "This is a great opportunity for everyone to see emergency equipment up close and meet the people who serve the community," Barth said.

Each family is invited to bring one hundred pounds of personal documents to be shredded for free on site by ProShred. Children will enjoy seeing the police paddy wagon, squad cars and motorcycle units. Free gun locks and firearm safety information will be available and parents may obtain Orland Park Police DNA kits for their children. Fire and emergency medical personnel from the Orland Fire Protection District will have equipment on site too. Special guests include Mr. D's Magic Show and Illusions and Jim Nesei's Cold Blooded Creatures.

The department's annual bicycle ride for Special Olympics Illinois will be held on Sunday, August 22 beginning at 7:00 a.m. Bike riders, age twelve and older, are invited to participate in this 14.4 mile leisurely paced ride through Orland Park and the nearby bike trails. The cost is $20.00 per person with all proceeds benefitting Special Olympics Illinois.

"Each year, our bike ride for Special Olympics Illinois gets bigger and bigger as more bike riders find out what a great early morning ride this is," said Lieutenant Bob Reilly who plans the event each year.

The Orland Park Police Department's Citizens' Police Academy returns on Tuesday evenings, September 14 through November 9. Open to adults age eighteen and older, the academy offers a firsthand look at police services in the Village of Orland Park. Pre-registration is required for the free academy and will be available after August 1.

Udder thanks to blood donors

Heartland Blood Center will bring the blood drive mobile coach to the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Ave., on Tuesday, July 20th from 11 AM to 2 PM. To thank donors who give blood during this critical summer season, Heartland introduces its annual Pint-for-a-Quart campaign. All blood donors who donate at one of Heartland's mobile blood drives or center locations between June 1st and August 31st will receive a certificate for a free quart of Oberweis Ice Cream!

June, July and August are the lowest collection months of the year for blood centers nationwide. In order to maintain an adequate blood supply Heartland Blood Centers urges all healthy individuals to donate the gift of life. To be a blood donor, individuals must be at least 17 years old or 16 with written parental permission; weigh at least 110 pounds; be symptom free of cold, flu and allergies; and be in general good health. Donors who have traveled outside the United States within the past 12 months should contact Heartland at 1-800-710-GIVE to determine eligibility.

Preregistration is requested for the July 20th event, but walk-ins are accepted. Please call the Reference Desk of the Midlothian Public Library at (708) 535-2027 for more information.

THE EVERGREEN PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION PRESENTS

BOOKS

GARDEN WALK

SUNDAY, JULY 18 11AM - 4 PM

$10.00 per person advance; $12.00 at the door; Kids free

Begins at the Evergreen Park Public Library
9400 South Troy

MORE INFORMATION:
WWW.EVERGREENPARKLIBRARY.ORG
OR CALL (708) 422-8522
Credit Cards accepted

The garden walk is a bike friendly route.

St. Patricia's will be having their first Vacation Bible school

We will be having a "Baobob Blast" this summer during the week of July 19th through July 23rd from 9:30am - 12:30pm. this program is for children ages 5 to 10. If interested, please call our Religious Education Office at 708-599-1221.

Registration is $40 and forms can be picked up at the school office or the rectory office. St. Patricia's address is 9000 Suth 86th Avenue, Hickory Hills, IL..

St. Patricia Religions Education program is currently accepting children in grades pre-school through high school for the Religions Education program.

To register a child, please call 708-599-1221. Registration packets can also be picked up at our rectory at 9000 S 86th Avenue, Hickory Hills, IL..

No child is denied a religions education due to a family's inability to pay! We are also have a registration weekend. It will take place July 31st after the 4:00 Mass and August 1 after the 8:30, 10:00 and 11:30 mass times. All students new to our program that were not Baptized at St. Patricia must present a Baptismal Certificate. For more information, please call 708-599-1221.

World Largest Block Party Old St. Pat's

Barenaked Ladies and Spoon Perform LIVE at the 26th Annual World's Largest Block Party!

It's Time to Rock the Block!!!

What: It's time to rock the block at the 26th Annual World's Largest Block Party, a summer tradition in Chicago ! This fun-filled event includes live music, great food, and a chance to party with a purpose!

Tickets are $ 40 in advance; $45 at the gate, if event is not sold-out. There is also a two-night pass available for $70. Admission price includes five FREE; beverages of beer, wine, soda or bottled water. Go to www.worldslargestblockparty.com to purchase tickets. Note: The first 2,000 people to purchase SPOON tickets will receive a one-year subscription to Time Out Magazine! Click the Facebook and Twitter icons on our Web site to learn fun trivia facts and up-to-date news on the event.

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Where: The entry gate is located at Madison and Des Plaines in Chicago 's West Loop .

Why: Proceeds support the church and the Center for Social Concerns on the Old St. Pat's campus, which houses the following outreach programs: Horizons for Youth; Career Transitions Center of Chicago; and Global Alliance for Africa .

Pictured is Barenaked Ladies

Grand Re-Opening of Sullivan Park

Please join the Oak Lawn Park District Board of Commissioners on Wednesday, July 7 for the Grand Re-Opening of Sullivan Park (99th & Kostner).

The ribbon cutting ceremony will begin at 6:30 pm with entertainment by the park district's IndepenDance Dance Team and the Special Recreation Hip Hop Dancers.

Refreshments will be served immediately following the ribbon cutting at the park.

For more information please call the Oak Lawn Park District at 708-857-2225.

Attention! Festivals, Carnivals, Las Vegas Night, Entertainment Events, all Fundraisers!
You can see your ad now in "COLOR", just call Linda for Special Rates..
312-624-8996

PALOS HILLS
Friendship Festival & Carnival
Free Parking & Free Admission
July 8 - 11, 2010
New Location! 109th & 88th Ave., Palos Hills
Carnival Mega Pass
$40 in advance - All 4 Days!
If purchased by 5pm July 7, 2010. Advance purchase only available at the Palos Hills Community Center, 8455 W 103rd St. in Palos Hills
~ PAY ONE PRICE ~
Thur. 6-10 pm • Sat. Noon - 4 pm
BANDS ★ BANDS ★ BANDS
Thur. - Maggie Speaks
Fri. - Heartache Tonight & American English
Sat. - US Navy Great Lakes Ceremonial Band
The Dave Wallace Band, Arrival & ARRA
Sun. - The Jamaican One Man Band & EPIC
RADIO STATIONS
Jack FM - Thursday 7-9 pm
101.9 The Mix - Sunday 1-3 pm
100.3 FM - Sunday 3-6 pm
Showcase Classic Car Show
Sat. July 10th - Registration 9 am
$15 Registration before the show • $20 Day of the show
100 Trophies - 33 Classes
Deal or No Deal Game
Bob's Shotgun Bingo
Register online at
www.showcaseclassics.com
Giant Fireworks Display
Sunday at Dusk
HOT DOG & PIG RACES
SHOW TIMES:
Fri. 6:30 & 8:00
Sat. & Sun.
1:00, 3:00, 4:30, 6:00 & 7:30 pm
Fri., Sat. & Sun.
Arts & Crafts
Business Vendor Expo
Sat.
Chicago Ridge Animal Shelter Adoption
Sat. & Sun.
Palos Hills Horsemen Association
$1.00 each Petting Zoo
Pony & Camel Rides
Festival Hours: Thur. 6 pm - 10:30 pm • Fri. 6 pm - Midnight
Sat. Noon - Midnight • Sun. 1 pm - 10:30 pm
www.paloshillsweb.org - Click on fest
Call 708.430.4500

BRIDGEVIEW CHURCH OF GOD
3RD ANNUAL FAMILY FEST & CRAFT SHOW
Saturday, July 17, 2010 ~ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
7801 W. 71st Street, Bridgeview
Rain Date July 24, 2010
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The garden walk is a bike friendly route.

Letters to the Editor

The latest news from MetroSouth Medical Center is its campaign to get MEN to the doctor!

When it comes to keeping their bodies "tuned-up," men are the weaker sex. Only 57% of men visited the doctor within the past year, compared to 74% of women. Men are also hospitalized more often for preventable conditions such as congestive heart failure and diabetes complications.

It is for these reasons that MetroSouth Medical Center dedicated their summer campaign to "Tune-Up Time for Dads". MetroSouth is urging their communities' children, wives, aunts, cousins and neighbors to band together to get the special man in their life to the doctor.

This campaign in Chicago 's Southland comes at the same time when the national government in partnership with the Ad Council is launching a similar campaign nationwide. TV and print commercials will be seen throughout the country urging men to visit the doctor.

Screening recommendations for men were developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. These have been adopted by MetroSouth and are available in a convenient folder format by calling 708-489-7925. This folder can be used by men to organize their medical records as well track adherence to the recommended screenings.

For example, men over 50 years of age who have every smoked should be screened for an aortic aneurysm. Furthermore, men should have their body mass index, blood pressure, cholesterol and sugar levels checked annually.

As an additional incentive for men to visit the doctor, MetroSouth Medical Center is offering a family gift for every man that has a tune-up before Labor Day. Appointments can be scheduled at locations throughout the Southland by calling 708-489-7925.

Pictured from the left is Mark Donahue, President F.O.P. Chicago Lodge #7, Officer Henry Thomas and Greg Bella, 3rd. Vice President. Officer Kane is not pictured.

FOP honors officers

Mark Donahue, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, and Greg Bella, 3rd. Vice President, presented the Distinguished Service Award to Chicago Police Officers Henry Thomas and Patrick Kane. Police Officers Henry Thomas and Patrick Kane were assigned to the A/1 Robbery Mission Team and responded to 6338 S. Hermitage in search of the offender who had two outstanding investigative alerts. The officers, upon their arrival, identified themselves and spoke with the offender's uncle, advising him of the nature of the investigation.

The uncle admitted the officers into the residence. While the officers were speaking with the uncle in the vestibule the offender, who was in the 2nd. floor apartment of the home, left the apartment and walked downstairs. Upon seeing the police officers he fled back to the 2nd. floor to make good his escape.

The officers grabbed the offender by his legs as he was going out a window. At this time he turned and pointed a handgun at the officers, who gave him several orders to drop the handgun. The offender refused and Officer Thomas, in fear of his and his partner's safety, fired his weapon, striking the offender who continued to struggle and eventually pulled from the officer's grasp and fell to the sidewalk below.

The officers immediately notified Zone 6 Radio of shots fired by the police and requested an ambulance for the offender. Chicago Fire Department Ambulance responded to the call and the offender was dead upon arrival.

Donahue stated, "Due to the Officers' dedication to duty and courage during a difficult situation, a dangerous criminal was removed from the streets of the City of Chicago".

Donahue concluded by stating "It is with great appreciation that the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, presents Officers Henry Thomas and Patrick Kane with the Distinguished Service Award."

JULY 2010 Calendar of Events

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	2 Independence Day Celebration/ Patriotic Trivia 12:30 p.m.
5 CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY	6 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	7 Movie & Popcorn "Invictus" 1:00 p.m.	8 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	9 Let's Play Bingo! 1:00 p.m.
12 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	13 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	14 Movie & Popcorn "It's Complicated" 1:00 p.m.	15 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	16 Guest Speaker Tips on how to Maintain Beautiful Flowers & Gardens 12:30 p.m.
19 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	20 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	21 Movie & Popcorn "Play The Game" 1:00 p.m.	22 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	23 Let's Play Bingo! 1:00 p.m.
26 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	27 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	28 Movie & Popcorn "Extra Ordinary" 1:00 p.m.	29 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	30 MSP Seminar 12:30 p.m.

7945 S. Harlem Ave., Burbank, IL 60459

For more information, please call:

708-430-9504

HUMANA

Guidance when you need it most

beyond ordinary

Agent X

by: J.R. Haymaker

I heard the first announcement of the Patriot Act in a news report. Included in the report it was announced that it had already been put to use to deport a man from Afghanistan. The report went on to say it was an FBI agent working in the anti-terror unit that had been belligerent. It wasn't till I went to Afghanistan that I got the rest of the story.

I was looking for a suitable property for a College to relocate. The school administrator had been told that the school could not be accredited without relocating to a larger campus in Kabul. This led me to a property on Chicken Street in Kabul. The owner of the property spoke fluent English. He told me he had lived in the U.S. and had been an FBI agent in the Anti terror unit as an undercover officer. He also stated that he had been deported under the Patriot Act.

I became good friends with this former agent. (I don't want to state his name for his safety). He was upset that he never had a chance to go before a judge for due process. I guess the executive branch War Powers Act precludes this formality. He admitted to his belligerence. He had a visa to be in the U.S. and a work permit. He had been a police officer for a small town and was recruited by the FBI to work in the Anti-terror Unit.

While working at his office he was required to work overtime. The amount of overtime his supervisor "Ms. Tricky" was demanding amounted to him doing two full time jobs. No-one else in his office was pushed into working so many hours.

The type of things he was asked to do during this time were things anyone could perform. He complained that he had no time to spend with his family and that his contract only required that he work up to thirty hours a week overtime. At which time he said 'and if you don't like it you can kiss my ***'. Ms. Tricky told him 'You don't know what I can do to you'.

She had him arrested and deported using the freshly instituted Patriot Act. This agent had lived in Germany before coming to the U.S. The first place he was taken was to Germany so his papers could be handed over to authorities there.

This agent had grown up in Kabul. His father had been the Afghanistan Interior Minister before the Soviet invasion. His family was wealthy and owned properties that rented storefront spaces to local businesses. He returned to his family's property and began collecting the rent upon his return. He knows President Karzi of Afghanistan and is consulted concerning the American government and other issues.

Family connections go a long way in Afghanistan and who you know matters a great deal. The situation with this agent has now been told to numerous officials of the Afghan government and it can't look very good as a reflection of how Americans do things. Our rule of law premise looks like a shame. This agent was set up to be a political pawn. He fell right into it.

I heard in U.S. news reports that the Anti-terror Unit of the FBI was having a difficult time finding someone that was Muslim, spoke Dari; Pashtu; Urdu; Hindi; and knew the local customs of Afghanistan.

This person would also need a police background. After the Afghan-American community heard in the news what had happened to this FBI agent, I'm not surprised that they could not find anyone to take his place!

Anyone that stupid, they probably would not want anyway.

Eugene Moore, Recorder of Deeds

Forensic Audit

Forensic Audit, we have heard that term before, forensic that is, but not associated with with an audit. Over the past ten years or more we have become acquainted with forensic sciences, especially as it relates to solving crimes.

The CSI television series have covered the airwaves from New York to California. Now, we being introduced to a new forensic science associated with finances. Your first question might be has a crime been committed? And, if so, where is the crime scene? The answer is closer than you think. And, where there is no crime one may be in progress.

The goal of a forensic [loan] audit is to uncover violations that could lead to a successful loan modification. A loan auditor is someone who is supposed to perform a thorough and comprehensive analysis of your mortgage documents to ascertain whether there are any lender violations with regard to applicable state and federal laws that pertain to mortgages. This practice is the flip side of predatory lending. Call it predatory loan salvation-only no one's loans are being saved.

Remember, your mortgage documents were examined at closing and you were given a copy of the documents. You also, executed a document that allowed the lender and escrow or title company to correct any errors discovered after the closing. Most certainly, you, your lawyer, the title company or your lender would have discovered any errors that existed. The forensic auditor will assure that any errors discovered will position you to re-negotiate your mortgage or as he or she will allege modify the terms of your mortgage.

For these services they charge a hefty fee, $2,500-$4,000. Home owners desperate to save their homes from foreclosure have forked over these sums to save their homes, only to learn that they have victimized once again. In 2009, California investigated more than 2,000 complaints involving loan modification scams. Nearly 350 individuals and companies received a Desist and Refrain Order to stop the illegal activity. Florida law prohibits any company or individual from charging up-front fees for foreclosure rescue or loan modification services related to foreclosure.

This scam is moving to the mid-west and I do not want you to become a victim of these predators. In Cook County we are on the look-out for these predators and caution you to contact the States Attorney or the Attorney Generals office if you are approached about or offered a Forensic Audit. Let's put the brakes on these financial rapists before they get started.

For more information, contact the Recorder's Office at 118 N. Clark, Room 230, Chicago, IL 60602

St. Laurence Alumni Soccer Game

St. Laurence High School in Burbank, the place "Where Leadership Begins," is proud to be hosting its second annual alumni soccer game featuring some great players from years past on Friday, July 30, at 7:00 pm. The game will be played in beautiful Kavanagh Stadium on the state-of-the-art synthetic field. This contest will be timed as well as officiated. Alumni planning on playing should be at the field at 6:30 pm, and all participants will receive a complimentary shirt.

Please contact Head Soccer Coach Nate Grosse (ngrosse@stlaurence.com) if you are interested in playing, or if you need any additional information.

Summer enrollment again passes 11,000 mark at Moraine Valley

The 2010 summer school enrollment at Moraine Valley Community College exceeded the 11,000-student mark for the seventh consecutive year.

"Moraine Valley continues to be an excellent opportunity for our community members to start, as well as, continue their college experience or enrich it during the summer," Dr. Vernon O. Crawley, college president, said. "Many of our summer school students attend four-year institutions in the fall and spring, and it is testament to our faculty and staff that these students see the value in taking classes with us in the summer."

The total number of credit hours set a record for summer school with 47,905 hours.

The majority of students enrolled—75 percent—is taking college transfer classes, and 21 percent of the students are enrolled in career program courses. Part-time students accounted for 65 percent of the enrollment. Female students outnumber males, making up 59 percent of the enrollment, while in-district students account for 84 percent of the enrollment.

Worth Township Seniors

The Worth Township Seniors will be sponsoring a 55 ALIVE REVIEW COURSE on Wed. August 26th & Thurs. August 27th 2010, you must do both days. It will be at the Worth Township Center, 11601 S. Pulaski from 9:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M.

The fee is $12.00 for AARP members and $14.00 for Non AARP members. You will be asked to show your membership card at class. Payment payable to AARP.

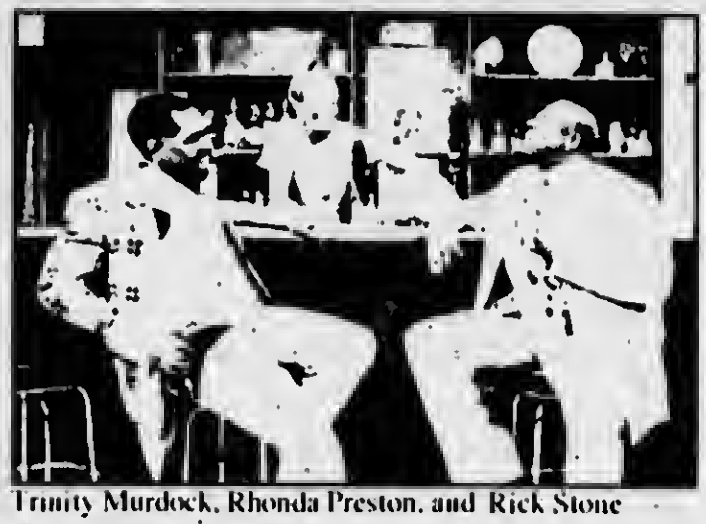
The class is open to seniors 50 years and older and you will receive a certificate that MAY entitle you to a reduction in your auto insurance after completing. BOTH days of classes. Please call (708) 371-2900, Ext. 28 to register.

St. Rita High School 35th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

St. Rita of Cascia High School will host its 35th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing on Friday, July 23, 2010 at Gleneagles Country Club in Lemont, IL. The outing will begin with a shotgun start at 1:45 p.m.. The cost per golfer is $125 and includes 18 holes, cart, food and beverage on the course, gifts, cocktails, and dinner. All proceeds will help benefit St. Rita students that currently receive over $950,000 in tuition assistance annually.

To register visit www.stritahs.com or contact Josh Blaszak at (773) 925-5029.

Attention Car Dealerships, Detailing, Auto Body Shops, Tire Stores, Car Wash Companies
It's time for you to advertise and you can see your ad in Color? Call 312-624-8996 for rates.



Trinity Murdock, Rhonda Preston, and Rick Stone
Photo by Danny Nicholas

Sensational Blues at the Black Ensemble Theatre

by Annette Dixon

"Nothin But The Blues," written by Joe Plummer and produced and directed by Black Ensemble Theater Founder and Executive Director Jackie Taylor with Co- Director Daryl Brooks.

"Nothin But The Blues" brilliantly tells the story of one of the most notorious blues clubs in the history of Chicago. Theresa's was established in Bronzeville in 1959 at 4801 Drexel Blvd. and was a neighborhood tavern which had live Blues and no other music was allowed. This play is the rendition of live music by Mark Moultrup, keyboardist; Osee Anderson, Lead Guitar; Tracey Anita Baker, Bass Guitar, and Herb Walker, Guitar.

Night Club atmosphere graces the stage with actors telling a story and singing the Blues for two hours. The actors credit Theresa and Deceased Mayor Harold Washington for giving Chicago the recognition of the town that focuses on all music , even the Blues.

Black Ensemble Theatre gives you more for your money than you can imagine. I have not seen entertainment like this in a long time. Rick Stone portrays an old man and does an outstanding job singing the blues. Lyle Miller is one of my favorite actors in the Black Ensemble Theatre Group. Rhonda Preston does an outstanding job as Theresa Needham, for I didn't recognize her as being with the Black Ensemble Theatre Group and I just saw her in The Story of the Nicholas Brothers there. Singling out a couple of actors is not something I normally due but these three people just happened to give it their awe this evening, perspiration and all.

I felt the music could have been toned down somewhat, but then I remembered that was what it was like in a Blues Club.

Tickets are $45 and the show is running through August 29

Discounts are available for students, seniors, and groups. Tickets, including group tickets, are available by calling the Black Ensemble Theater Box Office at 773-769-4451, or www.ticketmaster.com.

All performances will take place at The Black Ensemble Theater, 4520 N. Beacon Street, Chicago, IL.

Annette's Theatre Calendar for July and August

Follow the Yellow Brick Road to the Pheasant Run Mainstage NFT Youth Ensemble proudly presents Wizard of Oz July 23 - August 8, 2010.

Wizard of OZ rated G will be presented on Fridays, July 23, 30 and August 6th at 7 pm., Saturdays, July 24, July 31, and August 7th, at 10:30 am and Sundays, July 25, August 1, and Aug. 8th at 2:00 pm on the Pheasant Run Resort Mainstage. Tickets are $15, for adults, $12 for children 12 and under. Call the Box Office at 630-584-6342 or visit www.ticketmaster.com

Lookingglass Alice

by Annette Dixon

If you haven't seen this play before, you must bring the children to see it. Of course its adaption is from the Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland in all its artistic wonder.

I wasn't sure I really wanted to see it until I saw the opening of Alice literally tumbling down the rabbit hole. Lookingglass Alice is produced in association with The Actors Gymnasium. Yes, that's right, all the actors are gymnist. The actors fall, float, fly, defy gravity, tumble, toss, climb, and stupefying the audience.

The journey of Alice to become a queen reads like the book. The magic of the experience is made possible by the design team-Mara Blumenfeld for her delightful costumes, designed by Alison Siple and Lijana Wallenda-Hernandez, wild lighting effects by Chris' Binder, music by Andre Pluess an Ben Sussman, Choreography by Sylvia Hernandez-Distasi and the clever set designed by Dan Osthng.

Alice is so sweet, she even appears to be a young teen. Lauren Hirte is Alice. Molly Brennan is the Red Queen, you have to love her. Kevin Douglas is the Mad Hatter and plays other roles. Anthony Fleming III has various other characters, including the Cheshire Cat and Samuel Taylor is the White Knight and has other roles.

The production will be until August 1, but I advise you to get your tickets early. Prices range $28 to $64. Target Saturday Matinees offer is buy one, get one free ticket which are available to all 3:00 pm Sat. matinees, but are limited.

This program is made possible with the support of Target working with Lookingglass to make the arts accessible to all. There are also limited student tickets the day of the show for $20 with valid ID. A limited number of $20 children tickets for children under the age of 12 are available.

For a great afternoon with the children at the Water Tower Water Works, 821 North Michigan Ave. You can call for more information at 312-337-0665 or www.lookingglasstheatre.org

The Sins of Sor Juana stars at the Goodman Theatre

In her sensual and magical play The Sins of Sor Juana, Playwright Karen Zacarías imagines what may have happened when 16-year-old Juana joined a convent after five years of freely expressing her ideas in the court of the viceroy of New Spain. Resident Artistic Associate Henry Godinez directs a cast including screen stars Tony Plana (Ugly Betty, Resurrection Boulevard) and Malaya Rivera Drew (The L Word, ER) in this centerpiece of Goodman Theatre's 5th biennial Latino Theatre Festival. The Sins of Sor Juana runs until July 25, 2010 at the Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn, 312-443-3800.

Call the number listed above for information and prices of tickets.

Guest Artists Christian Lozano Paloma Gomez perform their work "Zorongo Gitano" US Premire June 25, 2010. Photo by Dean Paul

Flamenco Passion

Recently a concert took place at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie.

Libby Komaiko, Founder and Artistic Director and Irma Suarez Ruiz in residence at Northeastern Illinois University.

Along with many company dancers, guest artists were Carmela Greco, Cristian Lozano, and Paloma Gomez, from Madrid. Many musicians are from Chicago.

On June 25, 26 and 28 they honored their fourth decade of Spanish Dance and Music in America.

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ASK YOUR DOCTOR

Active Aging In The Face Of Osteoarthritis

by Dr Robert Meislin
NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases

(NAPSA)-Do you tend to avoid exercise for fear your aging joints may be prone to stress during the twists, turns and pounding of many sports" Unfortunately, many aging weekend warriors begin to shy away from physical activities-even those they used to enjoy-because they are afraid exercise will make them feel worse, not better

In fact, exercise can help reduce the pain and stiffness seniors often experience The key is picking the right activity While it's true that high-impact activities like running, tennis and basketball can aggravate pain, it's also true that low-impact activities like swimming cycling and yoga can actually lessen joint discomfort and improve flexibility Aerobic exercises (such as swimming) curb weight gain, which stresses joints, while range-of-motion exercises (such as yoga) build strength, which protects joints

Early diagnosis of such conditions as osteoarthritis (OA) is also vitally important-lifestyle changes work best during OA's earliest stages OA is the most common type of arthritis in the United States, affecting over 33 million people Unfortunately, when OA advances, it can result in major disability Even normal movements such as walking, bending and climbing steps can become painful

That's why it's so important to see your doctor if you notice symptoms of knee OA including stiffness, pain and swelling Together, you can develop a treatment plan that includes appropriate exercise and, if necessary, medications such as over-the-counter pain relievers or prescription anti-inflammatories

One treatment option for knee pain caused by osteoarthritis is Euflexxa(r) (1% sodium hyaluronate). Euflexxa is an injectable prescription medication that replenishes the fluid found in the knee, allowing for easy movement with little to no side effects Combining treatments such as Euflexxa with exercise and weight loss can be especially effective in helping to relieve OA knee pain

Physical activity provides enormous benefits to older adults Exercise prevents disease, lightens mood, improves balance, averts falls and overall preserves independence It can also be fun With the right exercise program and the right treatment, seniors can look forward to an active life filled with enjoyable pursuits

To share your story and enter for a chance to win a year's gym membership, visit www.euflexxa.com

Robert Meislin, MD

Euflexxa(r) (1% sodium hyaluronate) is used to relieve knee pain due to osteoarthritis. It is used in people who do not get enough relief from simple pain medications, such as acetaminophen or from exercise and physical therapy.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

You should not receive this product if you have had any previous allergic reaction to Euflexxa or hyaluronan products. You should not have an injection into the knee if you have a knee joint infection or if you have skin disease or infection around the injection site.

Euflexxa is only for injection into the knee performed by a qualified doctor. After you receive this injection you may need to avoid activities such as jogging, tennis, heavy lifting, or standing on your feet for a long time (more than one hour). The safety and effectiveness of repeat treatment cycles of Euflexxa have not been established. The safety and effectiveness of Euflexxa have not been shown in people under 18 years of age.

Side effects sometimes seen when Euflexxa is injected into the knee pain were pain, swelling, skin irritation, and tenderness and these were generally mild and did not last long.

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Encouraging Active Lifestyles Worldwide

(NAPSA)-According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, although childhood obesity has more than tripled in the past 30 years, better lifestyle habits, including healthy eating and physical activity, can lower the risk of developing serious diseases. That's one reason why it's important for youths to get involved in sports.

One event that may help is the Singapore 2010 Youth Olympic Games held in August. Singapore 2010 is a way for athletes aged 14 to 18 and their countries to promote sports excellence, build friendships and deepen respect for one another.

Besides the 5,000 athletes and officials from 205 National Olympic Committees who attend, the Games seek to inspire youths around the world to participate in sports. This will go a long way in combating the trend toward childhood obesity that's endangering the health of young people in the U.S. and many other places.

Learn more at www.singapore2010.

Asset Management

"ATTENTION: Seniors With Retirement Savings!"

"Retirees Make These Mistakes, Losing Thousands of Dollars!"
By Paul Cook

A nationally known financial expert says many seniors who have savings accounts make these mistakes, costing themselves and their families thousands of dollars! They risk their retirement security, increasing the chance they could outlive their money.

This is true, whether they handle retirement savings themselves, or with help from a professional!

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This summer, MetroSouth Medical Center is all about helping you get Dad, or the man in your life, to schedule a tune-up with his doctor.

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For a complete listing of the maintenance all men need, visit MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com to download.

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Village View

We serve our community with good news!

FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 13 | July 6, 2010

District 125 to host backpack bliss family fair

Orland School District 135 is inviting child-oriented businesses to host a table at its upcoming event, the Backpack BLISS Family Fair, to be held Wednesday, August 18 at Meadow Ridge School. The first-time event is named after the District's virtual backpack program that launched in September 2009.

A "virtual backpack," explains District 135 Community Relations Coordinator Bridget McGuiggan , is an online depository of community flyers on the District's website. Rather than organizations spending time and money copying thousands of flyers to send home to District families, they email a PDF of the flyer to be posted on the 135 website. Parents can view the flyers at any time and print them only as needed. District 135 named their "virtual backpack" program Backpack BLISS because BLISS stands for the five reasons the District has made the switch:

- Be environmentally friendly
- Lighten student backpacks
- Increase effectiveness of flyer distribution
- Save money for organizations
- Save time for District personnel

Why the Family Fair? "The Family Fair is a way for us to even further connect our District families with the many organizations that serve our student population. This event will go beyond flyers, enabling local organizations to get that invaluable face-to-face meeting with parents," McGuiggan notes. Groups that offer sports, activities, tutoring, special education assistance, and counseling are being invited to host a booth where they can distribute literature and allow parents to sign their children up for a variety of programs. While for-profit businesses are charged a $100 fee, non-profit groups can host a table at no charge as long as they are child-oriented. "The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce already hosts an outstanding community EXPO for the many businesses that serve our community; this is an EXPO designed with kids in mind. We are not looking for realtors, banks, insurance companies and the like. We are looking for athletic and dance groups, tutoring services, and any other type of business that would be of interest to the 5 - 13 year-old crowd."

Businesses interested in participating are invited to visit the District

City of Oak Forest informs readers

Pace installs new bus shelters

Oak Forest commuters may have noticed two new Pace bus shelters at 159th Street and Central Avenue and 159th Street and LeClaire Avenue. The shelters are the first of five shelters that will be installed in the city as part of Pace's bus shelter program.

Oak Forest in the News: Camp helps young burn victims also heal inside

A Chicago Tribune article highlights the Oak Forest Fire Department's involvement in the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance's I Am Me burn camp.

Summer safety reminder – don't leave children in hot cars

Associated Press, via Forbes.com – Deaths of infants and toddlers trapped inside hot automobiles have mounted in recent weeks, prompting warnings from the government and safety groups at the start of summer.

Vehicle stickers on sale now

Vehicle stickers are on sale at City Hall. Senior citizens, 65 and older, receive three complimentary vehicle stickers per household. Although the deadline to purchase stickers is June 30, existing stickers expire on July 15, 2010.

Those purchasing stickers this year will be allowed to do so without penalty until July 16.

Strike impacts city's water main replacement project

Oak Forest, Illinois – Work on the city's water main replacement program has come to a standstill due to the recent strike by the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150 and the Laborers' International Union of North America Local 2.

"Unfortunately, there is nothing we can do," said Public Works Director Troy Ishler. "This is out of our hands. This strike affects all construction projects in the Chicagoland area. We're hoping for a quick resolution."

The strike immediately impacts phases one and two of the water main replacement program. Phase one includes replacing and upsizing water mains east of Cicero Avenue while phase two includes installing water mains on Long Avenue from 151st Street to 155th Street and around Oak Forest High School. The strike likely will delay phase three of the program, which includes installing water mains along George Brennan Highway from Arrowhead Trace to Cypress Court and through the south side of Morton Gingerwood Elementary School.

"We will do our best to keep residents, especially those who live around the affected areas, informed of the situation," Ishler added. "It may take a little longer than we had hoped, but the end result will be a more reliable water system."

SENIOR LUNCHEON OFFERED AT ORLAND TOWNSHIP

"Lazy Days of Summer" senior luncheon on Monday, July 19, 2010. The luncheon will be held in the Orland Township Activity .

Ticket price of $7.00 includes a lunch of hroasted chicken, mini beef sandwiches, potato wedges, pasta salad, cole slaw, beverage and dessert.

Our entertainment for the afternoon will be the duet of Samuel and Janice Lozada. For more information contact, Kathy Kenyeri, Senior Services Coordinator, at (708) 403-4222.

Dan O'Driscoll was named the winner of the Village's 2009 Karaoke Contest.

Karaoke Contest Returns To Taste of Orland Park

The Village of Orland Park's annual Karaoke Contest, with its final competition at the Taste of Orland Park, has become a favorite Taste event.

"The Karaoke Contest helps get the community ready for the Taste of Orland Park," said Taste Karaoke Coordinator Donna Kouba . "The competition begins in June and July and culminates with the final competition at the Taste," Kouba said.

Orland Park restaurants that host karaoke nights are invited to participate in the competition. Those participating must be age 21 or older.

Four restaurants are participating this year, including Rokwelz Bar Meets Grill Restaurant; RC Mulligan's at Riviera Country Club; Sam Maguire's Irish Pub and Traverso's Restaurant.

Five winners from each restaurant will compete in the semi-finals that will be held on Thursday, July 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Sam Maguire's Irish Pub, 39 Orland Square Drive. The twenty semi-finalists will compete for twelve finalist spots at the Taste of Orland Park. Each semi-finalist will perform one song.

Orland Park 's top karaoke singer will be chosen on Sunday, August 8 when the top twelve finalists compete on the community stage at the Taste of Orland Park beginning at 2:00 p.m. Each finalist will perform two songs with the top three winners performing on the community stage after the competition. First, second and third place winners will receive American Express gift cards for $500, $300 and $200, respectively.

"Each of these restaurants will conduct its own contest in June and July. Five winners from each establishment — a total of 20 competitors – will then go to the semi-finals," Kouba said.

Further information about the Taste of Orland Park Karaoke Contest is available by calling Kouba at 708/403-6270.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 13 | July 6, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

International Women's Writing Guild looking for members

Women interested in having their writing critiqued can join local International Women's Writing Guild members for meetings every second Monday of the month, 6:15 p.m.-7:45 p.m., at the Palos Park Public Library, 12330 Forest Glen Blvd.

The next meeting is July 12. Space is limited. To RSVP, call 708-448-7236 or 312-545-3460.

For more information on the organization, visit www.iwwg.org.

Worth Clerk Bonnie Price (right) speaks to customers and staff

Crisis Center owns and operates Neat Repeats in Worth

Village Clerk of Worth, Illinois Opens the Doors to a Successful Customer Appreciation Sale at Neat Repeats Resale!

Over 500 customers crowded the Neat Repeats Resale Shops in Worth, Illinois for its storewide 24th Anniversary Sale recently.

Village Clerk of Worth, Bonnie Price, opened the doors at the Worth store promptly at 9:00 a.m. and enjoyed time spent with customers and volunteers. The late Dianne Masters, who founded the Crisis Center for South Suburbia, was also remembered as her birthday was June 26th.

Neat Repeats is owned and operated by the Crisis Center for South Suburbia (CCSS)! Proceeds benefit victims of domestic violence served by CCSS. The Crisis Center for South Suburbia's mission is to provide emergency shelter and essential services for victims of domestic violence.

Visit www.crisisctr.org for more information on the Crisis Center for South Suburbia, ways to support its mission, and the services it provides.

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas presents an award of excellence to Tor Jensen with the Midwest Danish American Chamber of Commerce, in Pappas' downtown Chicago office. Chambers of Commerce and business organizations representing many of Chicagoland's ethnic communities were honored at the gathering. "These organizations help keep ethnic heritage alive by supporting companies owned by members of their communities and encouraging their people to do business with them. Strengthening individual ethnic groups makes for a stronger Chicagoland, which we recognize and honor," Pappas said.

Lakeside Pig Roast Committee Nancy Mitchell, Eileen Kappel, Sherry TerMaat, Barb Campbell, Janeen Schmaedeke, and Patricia Bailey

Palos Heights Woman's Club holds benefit

There will be a Lakeside Pig Roast at Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Garden, Saturday, July 24, 2010 at 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm. The cost will be $40 per person.

Tickets are available at Mona Lisa, Tastee Freez, Karen's Hallmark, and the Rec Center or by calling Barb Campbell at 708-743-2621

Ticket price includes entertainment, unlimited buffet, Beer, Wine, and Soda with Fun and Games with Themed Raffle Baskets. This is a Palos Heights Woman's Club Fundraiser. All proceeds to benefit the Anniversary Garden at Lake Katherine, 7402 W. Lake Katherine Drive.

Worth announces their Cruise Night

The Village of Worth, will be having a Cruise Night, every Monday through September 27, 2010, from 6 pm to 10 pm. At the Water's Edge Golf Club, 115th and Harlem, Worth, IL.

Bring your car or just come out for some fun and meet the owners of these cars. Large Parking lot and no fee.

Looking for new members

The Worth Senior Pinochle club is looking for new members. Membership is free to all and new members are always welcome.

Visit the group at 11500 S. Beloit every Monday and Wednesday from 1130am to 3pm. Games begin at noon. Stop in to meet some new friends!

Please call 708-448-1181 for information. Lunch is available at this event!

Worth Historical Society looking for volunteers

The Worth Historical Society is looking for volunteers to assist with maintaining the newspaper collection. Please call the museum at 708-448-7080 x 107. Members meet every Tuesday from 10am to 1pm. Everyone is welcome and new members are always needed. Historical society meetings are every fourth Wednesday of the Month at 7pm in the Museum. The Worth Historical Museum is located at 11500 s. Beloit in Worth.

Moraine Valley trustees approve 2010-11 meeting schedule

The Moraine Valley Community College Board of Trustees has approved its regular board meeting schedule for July 2010 through June 2011. There will be no board meeting in July. Regular meetings will be held July 23, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 16 in 2010 and January 18, February 17, March 15, April 19, May 17, and June 21 in 2011.

The meetings will be held in the Board Room, Building D, Room 219, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Palos Senior Club Meets

Residents over the age of 60 are invited to join the Palos Park Senior Club. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the lower level of the Recreation Center, 8901 W. 123rd Street. The purpose is to share information and ideas. Lunch will be served for a small fee meeting. If you would like to join the club or have some suggestions, please call at 708-480-4103.

Doors open at 11:00 am. Those wishing to order lunch are asked to call no later than Thursday before the meeting.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 13 | July 6, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Village of Midlothian Night at St. Christopher Fiesta Main Tent

Come out for an evening of relaxation, entertainment and fun at Village of Midlothian Night at St. Christopher Fiesta Grounds Main Tent, 4130 West 147th Street, Midlothian on Tuesday, July 13, 2010.

The beer garden & food vendors open at 6 PM, and ARRA performs at 8 PM. Admission is free.

This evening kicks-off fundraising for a Gazebo on the Village Green for future events. Donations will be accepted for this project.

For further information, please call Village Hall, 708-389-0200.

What is happening in Blue Island

Lecture & book signing by Michael Weeks Mr. Weeks highlights key figures and events in each theater of the Civil War, covering everything from the Missouri Compromise to manumission, from Fort Sumter to Appomattox, providing context for the battle sites, museums, and countless other attractions.

Experience the sites where Frederick Douglass worked tirelessly to achieve equality for African Americans, where Clara Barton used her Civil War experiences to establish the American Red Cross, and where Robert E. Lee spent his childhood. Pie and refreshments served. at Memorial Park Fieldhouse, 12804S. Highland Ave., on Thursday, July 8th at 7:00 pm for only $5.00. Call 708-388-6421 for more information.

At Eisenhower High School, there will be a dance camp on July 22 to the 24, at 4:30 pm. The cost is $45.

Cardinal Dance Team, the reigning five-time state champion, will host its camp for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. Contact coach Marion Castillo at marion.castillo@chsd218.org or 708-935-7351.

Parents must register students by July 12. Registration forms are available in the main office at Eisenhower and on the school web site, www.chsd218.org.

Another Blue Island Event

Every Friday from now through August 6th, kids ages 16 and under can join the Radio Disney Road Crew and embark on a whirlwind tour of the world, right in downtown Blue Island!

Every Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., families are invited to explore the music, dancing, and delicious food at the City of Blue Island's "TGIF Picnics," at MetroSouth Park on York St. and Western Ave. Along the journey, kids can pick up a "MetroSouth World Tour Passport" win cool prizes, and qualify to be a raffle winner.

The event features local venders and a new MetroSouth Farmer's Market with organically grown fruits and vegetables..

Kids will enjoy entertainment by The Radio Disney Road Crew, including an opportunity to learn the lyrics and dance to the "March Around the World" song. The Radio Disney crew live performance is from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

One lucky "tourist" will win THE ULTIMATE VIP TOUR that includes a "red carpet lunch" at a City of Blue Island restaurant, a family four-pack to meet and greet the Radio Disney artist performing at Chicago's Magnificent Mile Lights Festival (November 20, 2010) and an opportunity to ride on the float with Radio Disney artists during the parade! In addition, TGIF participants can enter into a raffle to win a Wii Sports family gift basket, complements of MetroSouth Medical Center.

Throughout the summer, kids can get a stamp on their "World Tour Passport" at the following destinations: Blue Island Public Library, Blue Island Historical Society, MetroSouth Medical Center, Salvation Army Community Center, Senior Suites of Fay's Point and the Blue Island City Hall.

Kids will receive a free safari cup with a slushy when they get their "World Tour Passport" stamped in MetroSouth's Images Boutique Gift Shop and receive a voucher for redemption at Café Metro.

MetroSouth Medical Center is a full-service medical facility with physicians in 45 medical specialties. MetroSouth is located in historic Blue Island, Ill., approximately 16 miles south of downtown Chicago.

For more information please call 708-489-7927 or visit www.healtheonnect.MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com.

Crestwood Fest 2010

The 2010 Crestwood Fest is being held August 5th - August 8th, 2010 Caeser Park 141st & Kenton Ave. Crestwood IL. Admission is FREE!to the Main Stage & Fair Grounds. Plenty of Food, Car Show, Crafter & Vendors,Bean Bag Tournament, Children Activates, Pony Rides, Petting Zoo, and much more is available.

Fireworkswill on Friday August 6th and all inquiries can be directed to:info@crestwoodfestival.com http://www.crestwoodfestival.com

Midlothian Special Event Charity Golf Classic

On July 19, 2010 at Midlothian County Club
5000 West 147th Street

Golf & Dinner: $160.00

Includes: golf, cart, refreshments, locker facilities, lunch and dinner Dinner Only: $60.00

Cocktails at 7:00 p.m. / Dinner at 8:00 p.m

- Check in time 6:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
- Shotgun starts promptly at 7:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.
- No reservations held without payment.
- Checks made payable to: Charity Golf Outing

For tickets & reservations call:

Jerry Gillis (708).385-8642 or (708)389-0200

Outing prizes and sponsorships are appreciated. Please contact me to make arrangements.

We can only accommodate 200 golfers so please make your reservations early. Proper attire is required: no denim, jeans, t-shirts, soft-spikes only.

The Charity Golf Outing raises thousands of dollars for local charities. Some of the charities that have received benefits from this popular outing are local Midlothian food pantries and VITAS Hospice Services. This years profits will be distributed through Coffeehouse and The Luminaria Fund. Through the years this golf outing has raised over $400,000 benefiting the underprivileged of our community. The food pantries in Midlothian feed hundreds of people a year. It is important for us to provide support to families that have been injured, through job loss or major illness.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about the Charity Golf Outing, please contact Jerry Gillis at (708).385-8642 or (708)389-0200.

Ridgefest July 22-25, 2010

Entertainment

Thursday - Infinity with Tin Horse

Friday - Joan Jett and the Blackhearts with Dreams

Saturday - 38 Special with Brittany Clarke & Raz'n Kane and Livin' It UP

Sunday - Ryan "The King" Pelton with Hurricane Gumbo and Rico Quinn

For more information about the bands, http://www.chicagoridge.org/Community/Ridgefest.html

. Festival Admission:

Thursday	$5
Friday	$10
Saturday	$10
Sunday	$10

Free festival admission to children under 12. Senior discount applies. Sorry no re-entry hand stamps! Thursday & Friday: Opens at 5:30 pmSaturday & Sunday: Opens at 1:00 pm

Ride Specials

Thursday: $1 Ride Night Mega Pass: Don't miss out on our Great Mega Pass Pre-sale Deal! Here's how it works . . . . All you have to do is buy your Mega Pass for $40 and ride ALL the rides for ALL four days during ALL hours of operation and Save ALL sorts of money! Mega Passes will be available stat the Village Hall, 10455 S Ridgeland Ave.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 2 | July 20, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Excessive heat relief available in Evergreen Park

As temperatures remain in the mid to high 90's extreme caution is necessary. Please be sure to check on elderly relatives and neighbors as well as those with health issues.

Make sure that they are keeping cool and not exposing themselves to the extreme temperatures.

Please do not leave pets outdoors for extended periods of time. HB Maher Community Center at 3450 W. 97th St. is designated as an Emergency Cooling Center during extreme heat extending its hours Mon.-Fri. 9am to 10pm and Sat. & Sun. 9am to 5pm.

Should an emergency occur during nonbusiness hours call the fire department 708-422-2148 or the police department 708-422-4142 for information or assistance.

Please use your better judgement when exercising or working around the house.

PT Success Clinic of Oak Lawn to Host Grand Opening

PT Success Clinic - Physical Therapy and Wellness Center, located at 9501 New England Ave., Oak Lawn, IL, will host a combined community grand opening and business-after-hours event in conjunction with the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce on July 21, 2010, from 5 to 7 p.m. A formal ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. To register to attend, please call 708.529.3406. Leave your name, phone number and/or email address and number in your party.

Guests will have an opportunity to mingle and learn about the many offerings of PT Success Clinic, and indicate interest or sign up for upcoming programs and workshops. A raffle for products and services also will be held.

Oak Lawn Park District announces programs for all

• To celebrate the Chicago Ridge Kohl's remodel makeover, they are throwing a pool party! Join us for Kohl's Summer Fun Day! Thursday, July 22 from 7-10pm at Centennial Pool (94th & Nashville)

• Preschool Registration It is not too early to register for the Oak Lawn Park District's 2010/2011 preschool programs. The park district offers affordable, quality preschool classes for 3- to 5 year old. The preschool programs Learn As You Grow I, Learn As You Grow II, Play School and Prep School are offered at the Oak View Center (4625 W. 110th St.) and the Little White Building in Lake Shore Park (96th Street and East Shore Drive) and are taught by qualified instructors. Fee for preschool programs for 3 year old is $670 Oak Lawn residents and $752 for nonresidents. Fee for preschool programs for 4 year old is $1000 Oak Lawn residents and $1124 for nonresidents. Payment plans are available. For more information or to schedule a preschool visit, please call (708) 857-2200.

• Cityscapes - The Oak Lawn Park District is offering three fun excursions to Chicago this summer. Trips include a Grant Park concert on Wednesday, August 18 as well as a day at Navy Pier on September 1. Fee for each trip is $13 for Oak Lawn residents and $15 for nonresidents, which includes transportation. The bus will leave from the Oak View Center, 4625 W. 110th St. For more information, please call the Oak View Center at 708-857-2200.

• Outdoor Youth Soccer League– Registration is under way for the Oak Lawn Park District's Outdoor Youth Soccer League. Ontdoor Youth Soccer is open to those ages 6-9 with two age divisions determinate by the child's age as of August 1, 2010. Games will be played on Saturdays and Wednesdays. Practice will begin in early to mid-August. A coach will contact the players about practices. Fee is $75 for Oak Lawn residents and $99 for nonresidents. A $10 late fee will be applied to registrations received after July 9.

•Outdoor Youth Traveling League Registration is under way for the Oak Lawn Park District's Outdoor Youth Traveling League. The Ontdoor Youth Traveling League is open to those ages 10 - 13 with two age divisions determined by the child's age as of August 1, 2010. Teams in this league will be formed by a blind draft process and will compete in the South Suburban Soccer League. Games will be played on Saturdays. Practice will begin in early to mid-August. A coach will contact the players about practices. Fee is $95 for Oak Lawn residents and $119 for nonresidents. For more information call Shannon Nolan at 708-857-2420. A $10 late fee will be applied to registrations received after July 9.

Pictured are Father Perez Council Grand Knight Rich Doyle, center in sports jacket. $1,000 scholarship recipients Katie Hackett (left) and Morgan Knightly Murphy (right) and family members.

Chicago Southwest Knights of Columbus Council presents scholarships

Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council 1444 on Chicago's Southwest Side awarded two high school bound students with $1,000 scholarships each to help cover the tuition for their freshman year at a parochial school.

The first recipient, Morgan Knightly Murphy, a graduate of Catherine of Alexandria Elementary School in Oak Lawn and the daughter of Kevin and Peggy Knightly Murphy will attend Marist High School where she plans to play soccer and volleyball.

The second recipient was Katie Hackett, who graduated from St. Christina Elementary School and is the daughter of Brian and Lisa Hackett. Katie will enter Mother McCauley High School this fall where she plans to compete in cross country, graduate and become a teacher.

The two awardees earned the scholarship by outscoring 5 other recent grade school graduates during an exam in the council's club house on May 22nd which was proctored by Marty McCue and Karen Lynch.

Morgan, thrilled by her achievement, said, "This scholarship is really cool."

"It's a privilege and a pleasure to honor well-rounded students of this caliber with scholarships," said Grand Knight Rich Doyle. "The scholarships reflect these young people's abilities to focus on the important things in life and the support they have received from their families, friends and teachers."

Since 2000, Father Perez Council has awarded $29,000 in scholarships to boys and girls matriculating to Catholic high schools. The council celebrates its 100th anniversary of service to the Church, the family and the community during 2009 - 2010.

Presenting Dennis J. Gannon, retiring President of the Federation of Labor, are Commissioner Kathleen Therese Meany, Vice President of MWRD and Commissioner Cynthia Santos, Chairman of Public Information and Education Committee.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation president announced resolution for Dennis Gannon

Commissioner Terrence J. O'Brien, President of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago has announced that a resolution was presented congratulating Dennis J. Gannon on his many years of devoted service to the Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, at a recent MWRD Board meeting.

Worth Township Youth Commission is sponsoring Apple Tree Program

The Worth Township Youth Commission is sponsoring its "Apple Tree Program" for families experiencing financial difficulties. Donations of school supplies are requested from residents of Worth Township. Pencils, pens, folders, scissors, Kleenex, crayons, mechanical pencils, erasable pens, colored pencils, markers, glue, back packs, are needed to fulfill the requests of children within the township.

Families bring in a list of school supplies from their child's school and the request is then filled by Worth Township. Residents can drop off school supplies at Worth Township , 11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip . For further information, please call (708) 371-2900, ext. 45.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnew@sbcglobal.net

Owner-Editor Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

What is happening in Evergreen Park

"Galactic Blast" Vacation Bible School is coming to First United Methodist Church of Evergreen Park for children age 4 yrs thru 5th Grade Monday thru Friday August 2-6.

Evergreen Park Recreation Dept, still has openings in Future Pros Soccer Camp, Outdoor Soccer League, Preschool, and Youth Culinary Classes. Call 708-229-3373 for more information.

Village Pantry Coalition of Evergeen Park is hosting its annual "Christmas in July" food drive. Monetary donations will be greatly appreciated. Every $1 donated allows the pantry to purchase $16 of food. Bring or mail your donation to OCS, 3450 W. 97th St.

Boy Scouts of American announces Cub Scout Day Camp

Calumet Council, Boy Scouts of America will host a Cub Scout Day Camp at St. John's Lutheran Church grounds at 4231 W. 183rd St., Country Club Hills, Tuesday through

Friday, July 20-23, 2010. The program will serve 7,8,9,10 & 11-yr-old boys who are members of the Illinois side of the Calumet Council.

This year's theme is "Celebrating the Century." In honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, our summer Day Camps will take a look at Scouting through the century, and aim to instill classic scout skills and values in the Cub Scouts who attend. Scouts will work their way through a number of stations each day to learn and improve skills such as: Archery, BB guns, slingshots, wood projects, nature projects, Sports & games, Scout skills, and Outdoor cooking.

Tues, Wed & Fri will run 9am to 3pm . Thursday's schedule will begin later and run 12:30 -8:30pm, with a family picnic at 6pm, and evening program at 7:00 pm.

The Illinois side of the Calumet Council serves the following communities: Crestwood, Dixmoor, Dolton, Harvey, Markham, Midlothian, Oak Forest, Orland Hills, Orland Park, Phoenix, Posen, Riverdale, South Holland, Thornton, Tinley Park, Beecher, Chicago Hts., Crete, E. Hazelcrest, Country Club Hills, Flossmoor, Ford Hts., Glenwood, Hazelcrest, Homewood, Matteson, Monee, Olympia Fields, Park Forest, Richton Park, , Sauk Village, S. Chg. Hts., Steger; University Park. Contact person: Day Camp Director, Serene Grage (708)388-5028.

Telecourses offered at Moraine Valley this fall

Moraine Valley Community College offers several telecourses for the fall 2010 semester. Telecourses offer flexibility and convenience by providing classes on DVD or video, allowing students to attend a limited number of class meetings, set up their own study hours and work at their own pace while earning college credit.

This fall's telecourse offerings include American National Government, Introduction to Philosophy, General Sociology, and Life-Span Developmental Psychology.

Students enrolled in telecourses can check out videotapes or DVDs from the college library, as well as public libraries in Alsip, Blue Island, Bridgeview, Burbank, Calumet Park, Crestwood, Justice, Oak Lawn, Orland Park, and Robbins. For more information about telecourses, call the college's Alternative Learning Office at (708) 974-5710.

Information on all credit and non-credit classes is available in the fall 2010 class schedule or online at morainevalley.edu. Registration is ongoing. Tuition is $95 per credit hour plus fees and books. Students who have applied to the college can register in the Registration Office, located on campus in the Student Services Center (Building S), 9000 W. College Pkwy, in Palos Hills; by phone at (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556); or online at morainevalley.edu.

Treasurer Maria Pappas presents an award

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas presents an award of excellence to Gus Noble, president, Scottish Business Forum, in Pappas' downtown Chicago office. Chambers of Commerce and business organizations representing many of Chicagoland's ethnic communities were honored at the gathering. "These organizations help keep ethnic heritage alive by supporting companies owned by members of their communities and encouraging their people to do business with them. Strengthening individual ethnic groups makes for a stronger Chicagoland, which we recognize and honor," Pappas said.

Oak Forest Social Services Corporation provides funding to improve community center

The Oak Forest Social Services Corporation has granted the City of Oak Forest more than $25,000 to make several improvements at the Oak Forest Community Center located at 15501 S. Kilpatrick Avenue . The corporation, which was established in 1980, aims to further the common good and general welfare of Oak Forest residents by bringing civic betterments and social improvements to the city.

"We are extremely pleased to be able to support such a worthwhile project," said Mary Cercone, the corporation's chair. "The community center is a venue for all Oak Forest residents, young and old, to use and enjoy." The funds donated by the Social Services Corporation will go toward materials to repave the parking lot, a new refrigerator, and a heating and air conditioning system.

The Oak Forest Public Works Department will repave the parking lot and install the new refrigerator while resident Timothy Colby, who is an HVAC specialist, has volunteered to install the heating and cooling system. "These changes will make a huge difference to those who use the community center, especially our seniors," said Mayor Hank Kuspa.

"We are grateful for the corporation's continued support." In recent years, the corporation has provided financial assistance to upgrade the city's cable studios, install the gazebo and Centennial Park plaques, and build the Veterans' Memorial outside City Hall.

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HEALTHY IDEAS

(NAPSA)-The Heinz Family Philanthropies, Abbott Labs and Welvista, a nonprofit organization that fills prescriptions for patients who are uninsured and underinsured, got together to address the needs of patients waiting for access to HIV medications. More information is at www.welvista.org and (803) 933-9183.

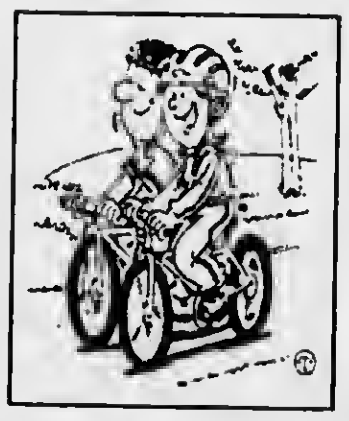
* * *

An enjoyable vacation can easily be an active one. Few things can help you de-stress the way exercise does, say the experts in high-quality exercise equipment, Life Fitness. More information and advice is at www.lifefitness.com.

* * *

Researchers trying to cure Alzheimer's disease are looking for otherwise healthy volunteers who may be experiencing the very earliest complaints of memory problems. Volunteer or learn more at the National Institute on Aging Alzheimer Disease Education and Referral Center at (800) 438-4380 or www.ades.org/Studies/ImagineADNI.aspx.

* * *



New Rescue Waters from the AriZona Beverage Company are fortified with vitamins, minerals and antioxidants, low in calories but high in flavor. They also help balance nutrient absorption. Learn more at www.drinkarizona.com, http://www.facebook.com/pages/AriZona-Rescue-Water/368445213173, twitter.com/DRINKARIZONA, or (800) 832-3775.

Oak Lawn Senior Happenings

The Senior Center, located at 5330 West 95 Street, offers a wide variety of activities for Oak Lawn Seniors. In addition to all daily activities the following will be offered in July:

Thursday, July 29th is Box Lunch Day. The sponsor of the day will be Southwest Center for Healthy Joints who are located at 9618 Southwest Highway. This orthopedic facility provides trauma care along with physical, occupational, aquatic and massage therapy.

The presentation begins at 10:30 followed by lunch and bingo. Tickets may be purchased in the office for $3.50 and seating is limited.

For further details on any of the activities you may call 499-0240 or stop by the Center for a calendar of events.

Prescription Drug Relief For People In Medicare

(NAPSA)-If you or a loved one are one of the millions of people who fall into the Medicare Part D coverage gap known as the "doughnut hole," provisions in the health care law will bring some relief this year. People who fall into the doughnut hole in 2010 will automatically receive a $250 rebate check to help them pay for their prescription drugs and other expenses.

Here are five things you need to know about this year's doughnut hole rebate:

1.Receipts can help you track your spending. People in Medicare Part D who fall into the coverage gap should automatically receive a check after reaching that threshold, but you should save your receipts just in case. If you think you've reached the doughnut hole and don't receive your check within a few months, having your receipts handy will be helpful when talking to Medicare.

2.Checks will be mailed automatically. Medicare tracks your drug costs for you. Once you reach the coverage gap, you will receive a check.

3.Protect yourself against scams. If someone says he or she can help you get your check more quickly if you pay a fee, immediately report this scam or any similar fraud to the police or to your Attorney General. You can find the Attorney General's phone number in the blue pages of the telephone book or online at www.naag.org. You should also report any suspected scam to Medicare by calling 1 (800) MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

4. Your check will be mailed to the address Social Security uses to reach you. If you need to change your address, please call Social Security at 1 (800) 772-1213. If you prefer, a change of address may also be reported by calling or visiting your local Social Security office.

5. You may be able to save on your prescription drugs. By entering the name of each of your drugs, its dosage and how often you take it into AARP's Doughnut Hole Calculator (www.aarp.org/doughnuthole), you can see when you are likely to enter the doughnut hole. This tool will also identify less costly but equally effective drugs available in your Part D plan and will print out a personalized letter that will help you begin a conversation with your physician about switching to lower-cost alternatives.

For more information on the new health care law, go to www.aarp.org/getthefacts.

News seniors can use: This year, Medicare recipients with a gap in coverage will receive a $250 rebate check toward prescription drugs.

Ask The Foot Doctor

Shopping For Shoes That Get Kids Moving

(NAPSA)-According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), America's children need to get moving.

A recent National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) of the last 30 years found that among children ages 2 to 5, obesity has doubled, while among 6- to 11-year-olds, it has tripled.

Obesity can have a negative impact on health. Young people who are obese are at a higher risk for cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and type 2 diabetes.

That's why it is so important to encourage children to participate in physical activity. However, when children choose a sport, it's important to equip them with sport-specific shoes.

"Selecting the correct shoe for a child's activity and foot type can go a long way in preventing many foot-related injuries," said Dr. Kathleen Stone, president of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA).

Here are a few facts you can use to shop for sport-specific shoes:

* If your child likes to shoot hoops, Give children a shoe that both helps them perfect their basketball-handling skills and prevents injury.

A child's basketball shoe should:

* Have a thick, stiff sole that helps give support while a child is running and landing from jumps to the basket.

* Incorporate high ankle construction that supports the ankle during quick changes in direction. A good basketball shoe should have the strongest support on either side of the ankle.

* If your child is an ace on the tennis court.

A court shoe should:Support both sides of the foot, due to the quick lateral movements and weight shifts in court sports.

* Provide a flexible sole for fast changes of direction.

* If your child likes to run. Choose a shoe that:

* Provides maximum shock absorption to help runners avoid ailments such as shin splints and

knee pain.

* Controls the way your child's heel strikes the ground, so the rest of the foot can fall correctly.

* Whatever the game, stock up on the right socks. The right athletic sock should be made of a natural/synthetic blend as this helps wick away moisture, and it shouldn't contain any large seams that can cause blisters. For more information, visit www.apma.org.

Wearing sport-specific shoes can not only change your child's game, but they can prevent foot injuries.

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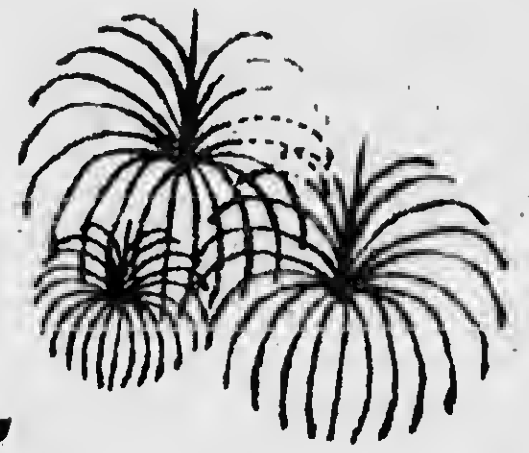

July 22-25

Thursday:
$1 Ride Night

Sat. & Sun. Ride Special:
Pay One Price, $20 1-5pm

Opens at 5:30pm Thurs. & Fri.
1pm on Sat. & Sun.
Kids under 12 enter FREE!

Entertainment

Thursday:
Infinity
with Tin Horse

Friday:
Joan Jett & The Blackhearts
with Dreams

Saturday:
38 Special
with Brittany Clarke, Raz'n Kane, & Livin' It Up

Sunday:
Ryan "The King" Pelton
with Hurricane Gumbo & Rico Quinn

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Kids Weekend: Saturday & Sunday 1-5pm

- Pony Rides
- Petting Zoo
- Niarome Clowns
- Lester's Learn 'n Play
- Magical Balloon Dude Dale
- Magicians Matt Scherer & Blake Alexander
- Rock Band
- Dave Rudolf's Concert
- Home Depot's Kid-Build- It Workshop
- Traveling World Of Reptiles
- John Measner Magic Show
- Cold Blooded Creatures
- Animals For Awareness

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Euro Bungee!

RidgeFest is held at Freedom Park, located at Birmingham & Oak (2 blocks east of 104th & Ridgeland)
For more information, call the Village of Chicago Ridge • (708) 425-7700
or check out our website at www.chicagoridge.org

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Free public tour on August 7th

Friends of the Chicago Portage would like to announce a free public tour at the Chicago Portage National Historic Site on Saturday August 7th at 10:00 A.M. One of only two national historic sites in Illinois, the Chicago Portage National Historic site is the only place where you can stand on the same ground walked by all the early explorers, early settlers, and creators of Chicago. This tour will be lead by veteran tour guide Jeff Carter who will be assisted by noted Fur Trade author and historian Jake Ilko. They will explore the "Birth Story of Chicago" from the geological beginnings of the Portage to how it is still functioning in Chicago today. The Tour is about a ½ mile in length on a gravel path through the woods and will take about 2 hours.

All tours are free and open to the public.

The Chicago Portage National Historic site is situated at 4800 S. Harlem which is on the west side of Harlem Avenue (7200 W) just 2 blocks north of the Stevenson Expressway (I-55).Meet at the monumental statue of Marquette and Joliet and their native American guide at 10:00 am. Wear long pants and walking shoes or boots. Tour will run rain or shine and will conclude at noon

Friends of the Chicago Portage promotes the historic interpretation, ecological restoration and appropriate development of the Chicago Portage National Historic Site through volunteer advocacy, public events and other projects that raise public awareness of the site's history and significance. Sponsor: Friends of the Chicago Portage Contact: Gary Mechanic at 773-590 0710 or visit www.chicagoportage.org

The National Kidney Mobile visits Midlothian

Recently, the Children for Disabled Children Foundation had a health fair with volunteers from the National Kidney Foundation and the State of Illinois and Walgreens. This was a free health fair for testing the urine for kidney diseases, and the blood for Hypertension and diabetes.

Shefah Saman, Executive Director of CDFC stated, "that the purpose was fulfilled for this event. About 30 people had to test twice and were in fact in need of immediate doctor attention. Moreover, one of our visitors needed to be hospitalized immediately."

Pictured are volunteers and Ms. Saman, which brought joy and success to everyone who visited the health fair. The building was small for this function, but because of the dedication of Shefah Saman, she made it work.

Ms. Saman is a woman with strong convictions and will help women and children if the client meets the criteria.

Contact Shefah Saman, Executive Director of CHDCF at 4645 West 147th St., Midlothian, IL 60445 or call 708-945 7080.

Celebrated Clarinet Choir 7th Annual Free Concert

The Celebrated Clarinet Choir will perform classical and pop tunes. The 17 piece choir is composed of high school students from local high schools. Lynn Hojnacki leads this event to showcase the clarinet.

Free performances are on Wed., Aug. 4th 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church , 17100 69th Ave. Tinley Park .

They will also perform on Fri., Aug. 13th at 7:00 at the Vogt Visual Arts Center, 17420 S. 67th Court, Tinley Park. The performance will be outdoors in the gazebo. Bring lawn chairs. In case of inclement weather, it'll be indoors. The VVAC is located 1/2 block east of Oak Park Avenue.

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Smith Senior Living puts out welcome mat for new volunteers

Opportunities are plentiful at Beverly and Orland Park campuses

Smith Crossing and Smith Village invite neighbors and groups to join their new volunteer programs that are starting this month. A myriad of opportunities are designed to benefit all residents in independent living, assisted living, Alzheimer's and memory support, and skilled nursing care as well as the volunteers themselves. Most volunteer roles are planned for a weekly or monthly commitment and some are for one-day events.

To register and apply for a volunteer position, visit www.SmithSeniorLiving.org and click "Volunteer" in the left column.

So new volunteers are prepared, both campuses are planning a required 60-minute orientation on Saturday, July 24. Smith Village's will be at 10 a.m. that day on its 2320 W. 113th Place campus in Beverly. Smith Crossing will hold its at 1 p.m. July 24 on its campus at 10501 Emilie Lane in Orland Park. To participate in an orientation program, online pre-registration is required.

"Those who already volunteer their time and talents at either Smith Crossing or Smith Village are invaluable to us," says Michael A. Flynn, CEO of Smith Senior Living that sponsors the two continuing care retirement communities. "Volunteers tell us that sharing their talents and time with our residents adds a whole new dimension to their lives. They say they gain as much or more from their experience as they give.

New programs designed for volunteers

To provide meaningful opportunities, Smith Senior Living has designed several new programs exclusively for volunteers, according to Flynn. "At this time we are seeking individuals and groups interested in participating in our art and pet therapy programs.

To register and apply for a volunteer position, visit www.SmithSeniorLiving.org and click "Volunteer" in the left column. There also are numerous ways volunteers can get involved with one-on-one programs, he adds, such as providing assistance getting around campus to residents in wheelchairs, as well as accompanying them on group tours planned by staff members of the activities departments. Some volunteers also are needed to assist visually-impaired residents with reading and correspondence.

Smith Crossing in Orland Park and Smith Village in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood are part of the highly regarded Smith Senior Living communities in the southwest suburbs and southwestern region of metropolitan Chicago. The not-for-profit organization established its first community in 1924 in Chicago.

For more information about Smith Crossing, please call 708-326-2300 or visit www.SmithCrossing.org. For Smith Village, call 773-474-7300 or visit SmithVillage.org.

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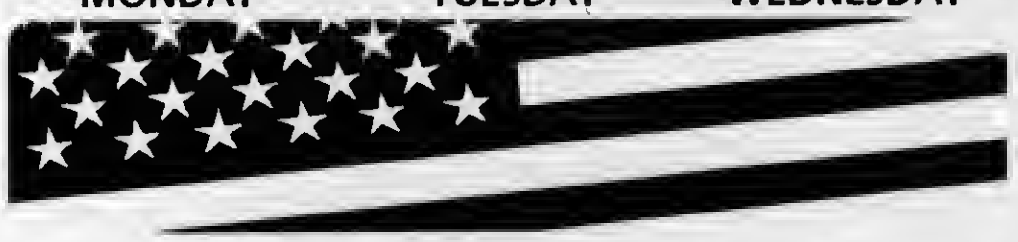
JULY 2010 Calendar of Events



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			1 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	2 Independence Day Celebration/ Patriotic Trivia 12:30 p.m.
CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY 5	6 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	7 Movie & Popcorn "Invictus" 1:00 p.m.	8 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	9 Let's Play Bingo! 1:00 p.m.
12 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	13 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	14 Movie & Popcorn "It's Complicated" 1:00 p.m.	15 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	16 Guest Speaker Tips on how to Maintain Beautiful Flowers & Gardens 12:30 p.m.
19 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	20 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	21 Movie & Popcorn "Play The Game" 1:00 p.m.	22 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	23 Let's Play Bingo! 1:00 p.m.
26 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	27 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	28 Movie & Popcorn "Extra Ordinary" 1:00 p.m.	29 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	30 MSP Seminar 12:30 p.m.

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Bike Ride

By: J.R. Haymaker

I was camping at the Racetrack Motel in Hastings, New Zealand. Hopping the back fence of the motel put you in the race track field. It was a nice place to stay because the air smelled so fresh and clean. I loved that I was awoken each morning to the sound of horse hooves galloping around the track. It was their exercise time of the day. I worked in the orchards picking apples with names like Royal Gala, Red Delicious or just plain Green apples.

The Green ones seemed harder because everything was green, the leaves and the apples. I know it sounds like easy work but you get paid by how many you pick and they have to be a certain size and color. Besides that they must have the stem still attached so each one must be twisted off just right. I just couldn't seem to go fast enough!

A lot of foreigners take jobs there while traveling and stay in campgrounds near the various orchards or farm fields. The travel guides tell what is being picked and where so it is easy to find work. I missed the sheep shearing and I think I would have liked that the best. Besides, I heard it pays the best also. Most of the people working there are British or Canadian but others show up also, like a couple from South Africa, a German and some from Israel. I don't think any come from Australia because they have plenty of that kind of work there also. No-one asks to see a work visa and anyone can apply for a social security card from there.

This one guy was from New Zealand and had come from another town for the harvest. He told me his wife and newborn baby awaited his return. A local friend of his was going to loan him his motorcycle for the weekend. This way he could get back to be with them for a couple days at least. I could tell he was looking forward to it by his eager voice. Only two more days of work to finish! I was walking past his RV trailer the next night and I had a distinct premonition that before this New Zealand guy made it back from his visit home he would be involved in a serious accident. I have owned and rode motorcycles for many years of my own life so I've had enough close calls to know how dangerous they can be. I could see the motorcycle was gone so he was not in just then.

The next day I hurried back to my campsite and went by his RV but he had not returned. I went to the front office and explained the situation to the motel owner's wife. I told her I was going to leave a note on the motorcycle. In the note I wrote I explained that he was going to be in the wrong place at the time and if he just changed his timing by thirty minutes forward or back on his trip he would be just fine. I had waited a while for him to get back but didn't know if he had changed his plans or something, so I left the note stuck in the handlebars where he would be certain to see it. I went past his trailer later and the motorcycle was gone.

Monday morning I didn't see him or his friend's motorcycle by his RV. After work on Monday when I had returned by my campsite there was no sign of him or the motorcycle. A while later I saw a police car from another town pull into the motel parking area. It wasn't long before I heard that the guy I had tried to warn had been killed by a drunk driver while coming back to the motel on Sunday night! He didn't have any identification on him, except a business card from the motel. That's why the police came there to find out who he was. I was able to discern later that he never got a chance to read my note.

The motel owner and his wife acted strange around me after that. I think he read the note and took it off the motorcycle after I put it there. The poor guy never had a chance. They did catch the New Zealand man that drove into him.

Oak Lawn Library hosts many programs to help you enjoy the hot summer

Audio Books On-the-Go

For people who would rather listen to a book than read in the conventional way, the Audio Visual Department of the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., offers "hands-free" audio books in several formats.

Books on CD – Browse a vast and varied collection of more than 2,000 unabridged audio books on CD in both fiction and nonfiction titles. They may be checked out for a three week loan period with a valid library card.

Playaways – This new media format contains an entire book in a small device no larger than a deck of playing cards. There are nearly 300 playaways in this growing collection, which also has a three-week loan period. Users must provide their own headphones.

Media On Demand — Oak Lawn residents can download digital audio books, eBooks and music from the library's web site (www.oaklawnlibrary.org). It's free of charge with an Oak Lawn library card. Users may watch or listen to titles on their computer, transfer them to supported MP3 and iPod devices, or burn them to a CD.

For more information, call the Audio Visual Department, 708-422-4990.

August Computer Classes

Registration is now underway for six basic computer classes held at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., during August 2010. Participants must sign up in advance at the library's Computer Center and pay a $5 non-refundable fee per class.

Word Processing I — Thursday, August 5 at 9-10:30 a.m.

Word Processing II — Thursday, August 12 at 9-10:30 a.m.

Windows I (Vista) — Thursday, August 19 at 9-10:30 a.m.

Working with Images — Saturday, August 21 at 9-10:30 a.m.

Internet Intro — Wednesday, August 25 at 1-2:30 p.m.

Windows II (Vista) — Thursday, August 26 at 9-10:30 a.m.

Participants must be skilled with using a mouse and keyboard. Some classes have additional prerequisites and skill requirements. Limit: 15 students per class.

For additional information about these and other upcoming computer classes, call 708-422-4990 or visit the library's web site: at www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

Oak Lawn Writers Groups

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., sponsors three writers groups that meet year-round. A general interest group meets on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. Writers interested in screenwriting meet the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Budding children's authors meet on the first Thursday each month from 7-8:45 p.m. These groups are intended for adults, high school age and up. No instruction is given at these informal meetings that consist of readings, critiques and writing exercises. New members are welcome anytime. No registration required.

For more information, call Linda Atkins, public relations officer, 708-422-4990.

Friends of the Oak Lawn Library Trip: Tall Ships on Chicago's Lakefront

The Friends of the Oak Lawn Library will host a bus trip to see the historic Tall Ships on Chicago's Lakefront Thursday, August 26. An in-person registration will be held from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, July 24 at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St.

This fleet of more than 20 colorful, wind-powered, rigged vessels will be showcased along the Chicago River and by the lakefront. Participants will take a narrated tour with a guide, first by bus and then by boat, to see and learn about these magnificent ships. Afterwards, dine at the famous Bob Chinn's Crab House in Wheeling, Ill..

This trip will depart from the library at 8 a.m. and return at 4 p.m. The cost of the trip is $78 for Friends members and $83 for others. Members must present a current membership card or receipt to receive the $5 discount. Two ticket limit. Please be advised that this trip is not wheelchair accessible.

After the in-person registration closes, you may call the library to find out how to purchase tickets, 708-422-4990.

Host an international student

Moraine Valley Community College is seeking host homes for international students who will be attending classes during the fall 2010 semester. Homes located along public transportation routes such as 79th Street, 95th Street, and 111th Street are especially needed as most international students do not have a car to get to school.

The Host Home Program at Moraine Valley recently celebrated its 20th anniversary. Each year the number of international students who attend the college increases, and more host homes are required to meet the need.

Hosts range from all ages and can be single or a family. A student can be placed in a host home anywhere from a few weeks to a semester or longer. Those who are interested in hosting should have an extra bedroom or space in their home and an understanding that new international students will need help and support as they adjust to living in the United States . Hosts receive up to $600 for rent each month from the student.

Anyone who is interested in hosting an international student should call Nancy Pearson, international student housing specialist at Moraine Valley , at (708) 974-5756 or email her at pearsonn@morainevalley.edu.

Paralympic Programs

South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) is looking for teens and adults who are interested in joining Paralympic sports!

A meeting will be held to discuss possible Paralympic sports that SWSRA will offer in the future at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, September 14, at the Worth office located at 10707 Oak Park Avenue.

Input is needed and appreciated in order for these programs to be a success.

Athletes with physical disabilities include, but are not limited to, the following groups: amputee, cerebral palsy, visual impairment, spinal cord injuries, intellectual disability, and les autres (athletes with a physical disability that does not fall strictly under one or the other five groups).

Within the six categories, athletes are divided according to their level of impairment in a functional classification system which differs from sport to sport.

Veterans, if you have sustained a physical injury while serving our country and would like to get involved in Paralympic sports, this program is for you!

SWSRA is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing recreation services for individuals with disabilities.

If you are interested in attending the meeting, please make a reservation with the SWSRA office at (708) 997-2738 by Tuesday, August 31st

The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs

In this hilarious retelling of the popular story, which Publishers Weekly called the "funniest book of the year," Alexander T. Wolf insists that he's been misrepresented; he's just an innocent wolf with a nasty cold! His reputation is left up to the audience in this highly interactive production, where kids are encouraged to join ace reporter Random Adjective in using reporting skills to uncover the truth. At the end of each performance, the audience decided the "true story." This entertaining and inventive twist on the classic will prove to be a howling good time for the entire family!

The production is only approximately 60 minutes.

The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs is a world premiere adaptation by Artistic Associate, Alyn Cardarelli, and directed and designed by Ernie Nolan (Associate Artistic Director). Cast members include Joe Goldammer (3 Pigs, Red, the Chief and Granny), Matt Olson (Wolf), and Samantha Nicodemus (Random Adjective). Designers are Nic Jones (Lighting), Joe Court (Sound), Jenny Pinson (Props), Joshua Lansing (Technical Director) and Scott Deter (Stage Manager).

Founded in 1991, Theatre at the Center is a year-round professional, equity theater at its home, The Center for Visual and Performing Arts, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana. Theatre at the Center is conveniently located off I-80/94, just 35 minutes from downtown Chicago.

The performances are Saturday, August 14 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Individual prices are children, $7.00, and adults, $8.50. To purchase individual tickets call the Box Office at 219.836.3255 or Tickets.com at 800.511.1552.

For more information on Theatre at the Center, visit www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com.

The arrival of baby Sophia brings joy to Eric and Lisa Petersen

After just two days of preview performances as the lovable green ogre "Shrek" in SHREK THE MUSICAL, Chicagoan Eric Petersen and his wife Lisa Morabito Petersen proudly gave birth to their own beautiful baby, Sophia Marie Petersen, weighing 8 lbs, 7 ounces and 20.5 inches long, was born at 5:12 p.m., Thursday, July 15, 2010 at Chicago 's Northwestern Memorial's Prentice Women's Hospital. Congratulations!

SHREK THE MUSICAL tells the story of a swamp-dwelling ogre who goes on a life-changing adventure to reclaim the deed to his land. Joined by a wisecracking donkey, this unlikely hero fights a fearsome dragon, rescues a feisty princess and learns that real friendship and true love aren't only found in fairy tales.

SHREK THE MUSICAL features a book and lyrics by Pulitzer Prize' winner David Lindsay-Abaire (Rabbit Hole), music by Olivier Award-winner Jeanine Tesori (Thoroughly Modern Millie, Caroline, or Change), and is directed by Tony Award' nominee Jason Moore (Avenue Q) and Tony and Emmy Award-winner Rob Ashford (Thoroughly Modern Millie, Promises Promises). SHREK THE MUSICAL has set and costume designs by Tony Award' winner Tim Hatley (Private Lives, Spamalot), lighting design by Olivier Award winner Hugh Vanstone (A Steady Rain), sound design by Peter Hylenski (Rock of Ages); choreography by Josh Prince, music supervision by Tim Weil, music direction by Andy Grobengieser, and orchestrations by Danny Troob & John Clancy.

SHREK THE MUSICAL was initiated when Sam Mendes, a big fan of the first Shrek film, suggested the idea of creating a musical to DreamWorks Animation's Jeffrey Katzenberg around the time the second film was in production. The musical is produced by DreamWorks Theatricals (Bill Damaschke, President of DreamWorks Theatricals and Co-President of Production for DreamWorks Animation) and Neal Street Productions, Ltd. (principals Sam Mendes and Caro Newling).

Individual tickets to SHREK THE MUSICAL, playing now thru September 5th, are $25 - $90 and are on sale. Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St. and 18 W. Monroe St.); the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000; all Ticketmaster retail locations (including Hot Tix and select Carson Pirie Scott, Coconuts); and on-line at www.BroadwayInChicago.com. Groups of 10 or more should call (312) 977-1710.

For more information, visit www.ShrekTheMusical.com or www.BroadwayInChicago.com.

The Makings of a Play before the finished product

by Alan Bresloff

When audience members enter a theater to see a new play, many of them never think about the work of love and labor that will be on that stage. I suppose to some, they think an idea was hatched, the writer put it on paper, a director decided to do the show and the actors learned their lines and movement and voila! a play is born!

It is a lot more than what we see. Many of the finished products that we see before us on our regional stages as well as the "black box storefronts" takes years before we get to see the actual production come to life. Even the big Broadway shows do tryouts and test runs before they "open" to the public (and the critics). Most of our regional theaters are doing workshops and readings on a regular basis.

One of our wonderful local troupes, Teatro Vista uses the biannual Goodman Theatre Latino Festival to bring new works to the stage, and most of them have become full fledged productions, some even award winning, over the years.

During this year's festival, I had the privilege of viewing a staged reading of a new work by local playwright Tanya Saracho, "El Nogalar" based on the work of Russian playwright Anton Chekhov's "The Cherry Orchid". Several months ago, Teatro Vista did a staged reading of this work in the backstage area of the bandshell at Millennium Park, and here, just a short time later, at The Goodman, what I saw was quite different from the original. A writer has ideas and interpretations of the original story and in bringing it to modern day Mexico from Russia, and watching audience reactions as well as feedback from actors and family, they see where changes must be made. Perhaps something just didn't work! Perhaps, something in their vision was altered by a personal experience. What matters is that the play was not where they wanted it to be.

Over the years, seeing as many plays as I do a year(around 200), I have been witness to new productions that did not do enough workshops and readings and were put on the stage before they were truly ready. Teatro Vista is a troupe that wants to put high quality stories on the stage (whichever stage that may be). They also attempt to bridge the gap between the Latino and non-Latino audiences and while many of their productions contain some Spanish (some even contain Spanglish) they are easy to follow stories and always produced and directed with the fact that their audience has a large non-Latino following. They believe that we share the same problems and situations and in bringing this into their plays, we become a little closer.

Teatro Vista is a name to remember and to look for. Each year they do a season filled with new and original works, many that have shared the process that Ms. Saracho's "El Nogalar" is experiencing now. While to many of those I spoke with after today's reading felt that the play was ready, I am sure that Tanya's mind is still clicking away with little ideas and changes that will make this play all that she wants it to be. But I guarantee it will be a full scale production in the near future and knowing how this troupe pulls it all together, it will be strong and successful. So keep your eye on that title and always check out www.teatrovista.org for upcoming productions. This fall, they will be teaming up with Rivendell Theatre Ensemble to present "26 Miles" by Quiara Alegria Hudes, a play that sounds very interesting dealing with relationships on the road of life.

Pictured is the human enactment of The Crucifition of Jesus

Theatre at the Center presents Jesus Christ Superstar

Max Quinlan ("Jesus") and Joe Tokarz ("Judas") star in JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR at Theatre at the Center, 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana, running through August 8. To purchase individual or group tickets call the Box Office at 219.836.3255 or Tickets.com at 800.511.1552. For more information on Theater at the Center, visit www.TheatreatTheCenter.com

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An annuity can be a sound investment for a secure retirement

Which Annuity Is Right For You?

(NAPSA)-Annuities are in the spotlight these days as an increasingly popular way to help Americans achieve a secure retirement

"People are living longer, and the prospect of outliving your money is very real," said Rich Lindsay, senior vice president of Life and Annuities at Symetra Financial. "Annuities are a great way to ensure your money lasts as long as you do."

When you buy an annuity, the insurance company has a contractual obligation to guarantee payment at the time you designate. Your money grows tax-deferred as long as it remains in the contract.

Here's a primer to help determine which type of annuity is right for you.

Immediate or Deferred. First, consider when you will want your money. If you need it right away, use a lump sum to purchase an immediate annuity, which starts paying out within 13 months. With a deferred annuity, you invest your money now, let it grow over time, then convert it to an income stream at some point in the future.

Fixed or Variable. Next, determine your risk tolerance. Fixed annuities offer a more conservative solution as they build retirement assets at a guaranteed interest rate. Variable annuities are riskier because account values are based on market fluctuations, but they do have the potential for higher rewards.

Consider Your Options. There are several options you can add to an annuity. For example, you can adjust payouts for inflation, select a death benefit that pays out to your heirs, or receive a lump sum in case of an emergency. Extra fees may apply with some of these options.

For more information about annuities, visit www.Symetra.com.

Fun can go further on your next family trip if you go equipped with the games and gadgets you need.

Travel With Less Stress: Tips And Gear To Make Travel More Enjoyable

(NAPSA)-Getting the right on-the-go gear is an easy and affordable way to avoid the stress of traveling and can keep everyone entertained. Here are some helpful tips to make your vacation more enjoyable.

• Bring a survival kit-Travel plans don't always go smoothly, so ensure you can keep everyone in good spirits in the unlikely event of a breakdown or airport delay. Essentials such as snacks, sunscreen, bottled water, first-aid supplies and a flashlight can help you weather the unexpected. The little extras-coloring books and crayons, a favorite pillow or blanket, DVDs to watch en route and a Kindle loaded with your favorite books (available nationwide at Target)-will keep everyone comfortable and occupied.

• Watch the road-Having maps handy will take the hassle out of any road trip-or even the quick drive across town. A GPS navigation system is a must-have to keep your travels headed in the right direction. Most GPS systems can guide you through unfamiliar areas, suggest an alternative route around rush hour traffic, find the closest hospitals, police stations and fuel stations, and perform an increasing array of infotainment functions. Printing out airport or roadside maps ahead of time lets you preplan your pit stops and make the most of every minute.

• Keep kids entertained-Keep boredom at bay by bringing along entertaining gadgets such as the RCA 10" portable Blu-ray player ($299.99 at Target) or the new big-screen Nintendo DSi XL handheld that will keep kids of all ages amused, for hours, on and off the road.

• Tune in or out-Take your iPhone or iPod Touch and you can use free apps such as Pandora Internet Radio and Shazam to turn your trip into a musical adventure. Just make sure you don't forget an iPhone/iPod car stereo adapter-they're available for almost any car, whether you have an auxiliary input, AM/FM adapter or a tape deck connection. Also, bring along some headphones for those family members who prefer to travel to the beat of their own iPod.

• Capture the moment-Don't miss a moment of the fun-capture it on video so you can share and remember your trip for years to come. With the Flip MinoHD Camcorder, it's easy to film your own videos and upload them directly to Facebook or to your computer. The Flip is a stylishly small, pocket-sized device and it's available for $199.99.

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Back-To-School 101 Getting a head start on basic school supplies can help you find some deals at the best prices

Savvy Skills For Shopping School Supplies

(NAPSA)-While every school year is different, one thing that remains the same is the desire to save on school supplies

Moms are looking to save on more than just dollars and cents. They want to save on time and stress, too.

To help, award-winning author, radio talk show host and mom Maria Bailey offers tips and advice on how to get yourself and your child off to a successful start this school year.

-Shop early. Vacation is a good time to inventory what supplies you already have at home, make a list of what each child needs and start looking for the best deals.

"Many stores offer bargains on school supplies during the summer months, so getting an early start can add up to savings," said Bailey. She recommends checking out stores such as Staples for low prices on products such as the Omnitech 2GB Swivel Flash Drive or the Flexible Calculator.

-Create a budget. While it can be good to get kids involved and let them choose some items, it's a smart idea to have a budget. If your children know how much to spend, they can do the math. Budgets can teach children a valuable lesson in both math and economics.

You can also involve your children in the shopping process by showing them how to look for a good deal.

-Keep a family calendar. Buy and post a bulletin board or calendar to help keep everyone on track.

Keep children up-to-date on key dates, including school assignments, tests and extracurricular activities. Also, consider color coding each child's schedule to stay on top of all the to-do's. Try Mom's Agenda calendar or planner from Staples to help keep everyone organized.

-Search for savings. Walking up and down the aisles to find the right product at the right price for your child isn't as hard as you think.

Looking for a good deal can help you save big when buying back-to-school products. Check out your local circular for the top deals each week.

-Buy basics in bulk. While teachers provide lists of specifics, the basics that students need to start out the school year are pretty consistent, so it can pay to buy in bulk, especially if you have more than one child.

Getting organized, looking for deals and mapping out the best way to prepare for the start of school will lead to a stress-free and easy experience.

For some of the latest deals, check out www.staples.com/weeklyad.

Stay Hydrated; Stay Healthy

(NAPSA)-Do you know if you are dehydrated? Chances are you do not, as an estimated three out of four North Americans are chronically dehydrated. The human body is composed of 75 percent water and fluid loss can lead to dehydration, which is the No. 1 cause of stress in the body. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, if you feel thirsty, you are already dehydrated. Prevention is the best step to take during daily activities to prevent the onset of dehydration.

To help, you can now get vitamin- and mineral-fortified water with antioxidants that is low in calories but high in flavor. Called "Rescue Waters," these drinks from AriZona Beverages can not only increase fluid replacement, they can also help balance nutrient absorption.

Each of the four flavors has a unique function as well as carefully balanced vitamins and minerals provided by Twinlab.

The Berry Blend flavor promotes relaxation with a blend of L-Theanine, green tea extract and lemon balm that work in harmony to help the body deal with daily stressors and relax.

For a boost of energy, the Lemon-Lime formula provides a blend of guarana extract, green tea extract and natural caffeine, which are meant to enhance endurance and fuel focus.

An Orange-Citrus blend is meant to help the body detox by supporting liver function and replenishing the body with necessary nutrients such as Alpha Lipoic Acid, green tea extract, milk thistle extract and L-Glutathione.

The Pomegranate Punch is designed to support immunity by combating free radicals with a blend of Arabinogalactin, green tea extract and elderberry extract.

The drinks contain no preservatives, artificial colors or artificial flavors. Furthermore, they're sweetened with the natural sweetener Reb A, made from the stevia plant, which has zero calories, so each beverage has only 25 calories per 8-ounce serving-other enhanced waters have twice that.

In addition, the brightly colored containers are made with a technology that protects the product within from oxygen, which can degrade the quality of the beverage and impair the nutrients inside. The Rescue Waters are made by the AriZona Beverage Company, a privately run American business based in New York.

For more information on this or any other of the company's beverages, visit www.drinkarizona.com, http://www.facebook.com/pages/AriZona-Rescue-Water/36844 5243173 or twitter.com/DRINK_ARIZONA, or call (800) 832-3775.

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Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 14 | July 20, 2010

For those who do not read Oak Forest e-briefs

City of Oak Forest leases Gingerwood Pool to homeowners association

The Gingerwood Pool at 5121 Aldersyde Drive once again is open to all Oak Forest residents thanks to the City of Oak Forest's unwavering commitment to clean up the property, which sat idle since being purchased in 2007 by the Salta Group, a real estate company in Northbrook.

New contract with ticket vendor to save city nearly $10,000 annually

Through a new three-year contract with Municipal Collection Services, Inc. (MCSI), the City of Oak Forest will save nearly $10,000 annually on administrative fees related to parking and local ordinance tickets.

City prepares for potential heat emergency

As the weather continues to heat up, there could be little relief in sight as many Chicago forecasters are predicting a steady string of 90 plus-degree days through the remaining two weeks of July. Therefore, the City of Oak Forest is implementing its heat emergency operations plan.

Join the Sock It to Me campaign

Oak Forest resident Janet Lavelle wants you to "sock it to her." Lavelle is collecting socks for South Suburban Pads, an inter-faith program providing shelter and supportive services to homeless persons, as part of the Sock It to Me campaign.

Green Steps Commission reschedules clean up day for July 25

Due to bad weather on June 27, the city's Green Steps Commission has rescheduled its clean up day for Sunday, July 25 at 10 a.m. at Twin Lakes (167th Street and Cicero Avenue). Please bring gloves, bags and refreshments. For more information or to register, send an e-mail to ofgreenstepscommission@oak-forest.org.

City to host health screenings that could save your life

The City of Oak Forest is pleased to offer preventive health screenings in collaboration with Life Line Screening. The screenings are offered on Friday, August 6 at the Community Center (15501 S. Kilpatrick) and test for stroke risk, vascular disease, and bone density. For more information or to pre-register, call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com.

Don't miss the back-to-school event at the Oak Forest Commons Shopping Center

On Saturday, August 7, Inland Commercial Property Management will host a back-to-school event at the Oak Forest Commons Shopping Center (159th Street and Central Avenue) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will include sidewalk sales, giveaways and discounts as well as a coloring contest, car seat safety check, fire truck tours, and much more.

Water conservation measures are in effect

Odd/even sprinkling rules are in effect every year from May 15 through September 15. If the last digit in your street address is odd, then you may sprinkle only on odd numbered calendar days. If the last digit in your address is even, then you are restricted to sprinkling on even numbered calendar days.

Question of the Week ! When do I have to display my new vehicle sticker on my windshield?

The deadline to display 2010-2011 vehicle stickers was yesterday at midnight. The Police Department will issue citations for outdated or missing vehicle stickers starting today. Also starting today, the cost of a passenger car or 'B' plate truck sticker will increase from $25 to $50.

To submit a question for consideration, please send an e-mail to cmaher@oak-forest.org and type Question of the Week in the subject line.

Orland Park's Centennial Pool Earns Second Five Star Award for 2010

The Village of Orland Park Centennial Park Aquatic Center (CPAC) earned its second five star risk management audit of the 2010 season. The Starfish Aquatics Institute (SAI) awarded the village's water park a second five star award following an unannounced risk management audit on Saturday, July 10.

Swimming facilities are tested on a surprise basis with the auditor hiding outside of the facility, secretly video taping the lifeguards. While the guards supervise the pool from their chairs, the auditor evaluates and grades the guards' performances. The auditor studies how often the guards' heads turn, scanning the pool from left, center and right, observes rotation changes and confirms that guards have hydration and shade. Once the hidden audit is completed, the auditor's presence is announced. The auditor then selects guards, team leaders and squad leaders to respond to mock emergency scenarios.

In a message to the village's guards, the auditor wrote: "I audited eighteen pools this season and this has been the best facility so far. You guys are sharp!"

The Starfish Aquatics Institute's StarGuard Lifeguard Certification Program provides pool, water park and restricted waterfront lifeguards skills exceeding nationally recognized standards. Using an integrated curriculum of emergency skills, StarGuard lifeguards are trained to protect life or prevent further injury until emergency medical personnel arrive.

Guards participating in the audit included Dan Carney, Liz Meyers, Como Negrete, Jess Petrisko, Sami Polson, Jess Slaviero, Stephen Zieler, Joey Adeszko, Phil Klimatis, Riss Smiriotis, Lauren Somogye, Sarah Trump, Aileen Henneberry, Ryan McVickers, Sam Wroblewski, Sylvia Bednarz, Becca Mallon, Colleen Brennan, and Anne Marie Bonaguro. Will Seidelmann was the manager on duty. Orland Park's Centennial Park Aquatic Center is located at 15600 West Avenue . Further information about the center is available by calling 708/349-4FUN.

Village of Tinley Park's National Night Out celebration

The Village of Tinley Park will be joining forces with over 37 million people in more than 15,000 communities across the country in promoting cooperative, police community crime prevention efforts during the 27th Annual National Night Out celebration. National Night Out is a unique, nationwide crime, drug and violence prevention program de-signed to create aware-ness of the importance of crime prevention programs and their impact on reducing crime, drugs and violence.

National Night Out America's Night Out Against Crime Tuesday, August 3, 2010 5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.

Brookside Marketplace, 7500 West 191st Street (between Kohl's and Dick's Sporting Goods)

Visit with Tinley Park Police Officers, Firefighters, Public Works Employees, Paramedics, Emergency Management Agency and representatives from local businesses.

·Classic Car Show 5:00 until 9:00
·Dotsie the Clown Face Painting 5:00 until 9:00
·Whirlwind Karaoke 5:00 until 9:00
·White Sox Mascot South Paw 6:00 until 7:00
·David Fleming Magic/Juggling Variety Show 7:00 until 7:45.

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Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 14 | July 20, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Village of Palos Park plans annual parade and Chili Cook Off

The Village of Palos Park will host its annual Parade and Chili Cook-off on Saturday, September 18. The event will begin at 11am with a parade down McCarthy Road. This year's Grand Marshall will be Pat Jones, who recently retired after serving over 30 years as the Village Administrator.

The party will continue on the Village Green, 12-6pm with a sanctioned Chili Cook-Off sponsored by Standard Bank and Trust Company. Contestants from organizations ICS (International Chili Society) and CASI (Chili Appreciation Society International), local residents, and community groups will compete to see who cooks the best chili and salsa. Cash and prizes will be awarded.

The day's festivities will include entertainment from local high school groups, music from DJ Dance Factory, and Jim Nesci Reptile Show along with petting zoo and horse rides from The Center, children's inflatables and games, and more. Participants can also enjoy food and beverages from a variety of local vendors.

Local sponsors for the Cook-Off include Standard Bank and Trust Company, Klein, Thorpe, Jenkins, LTD., Speer Financial, WOW Cable, Robinson Engineering, Prism Corporation, and The Regional Newspapers. More sponsors are needed, so please contact the Palos Park Recreation Department if you are interested in supporting this event.

Also, if your family, school, business or community group would like to participate in the parade or Chili Cook-Off, please call the Palos Park Recreation Department at 708-671-3760. For more information, please visit www.palospark.org.

Chicago Ridge Public Library has free programs

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, will host "Gluten-Free Betsy" on Thursday, August 5th at 7:00 p.m. Local blogger, Betsy Thompson will talk about managing celiac disease (a wheat allergy) and share her great gluten free recipes. Visit Betsy's blog at www.glutenfreebetsy.com and come share how you cope with food allergies.

Join us if someone in your family has been challenged with a food allergy. Call the library at 423-7753 to let us know you're coming to this free program. The Friends of the Chicago Ridge Public Library are hosting their 12th Annual Ice Cream Social on Thursday, July 29th at 7:00 p.m.

We will continue with our summer theme "Make a Splash: Read!" with Dave Rudolf's Beach party. Dave will play everything from Jimmy Buffet to Harry Belafonte. Wear your favorite Hawaiian shirt and grab your grass skirt and join the fun. After you soaked up some beach tunes, you can enjoy an ice sundae with all your library friends

Left to Right: Dr. Vernon O. Crawley, Joe Philipps, TL Barrett

Grainger Foundation makes $17,000 donation to Moraine Valley Foundation

On behalf of the Moraine Valley Community College Foundation, Dr. Vernon O. Crawley (left), president of Moraine Valley Community College, accepts a $17,000 gift from Joe Philipps (center), branch manager of W.W. Grainger in Alsip, IL., and TL Barrett, government account manager of W.W. Grainger, on June 22.

The Grainger Foundation donated the check to support the college's Mechanical Technologies program. According to the company's website, Grainger, a leading distributor of industrial supplies, is committed to supporting technical education. "Grainger is committed to helping stem the growing shortage of skilled workers while supporting the increasing technical demands of today's manufacturing workplace."

Look for the Pot of Gold at Worth Village Wide Garage Sale

Village of Worth Pot of Gold Village Wide Garage Sale, July 30 and 31, 2010, from 8 am to 4pm. Each year over 100 homes participate in this popular event.

To get involved with the Pot of Gold Community Garage Sale, just register the sale location at the Village Hall by filing out a registration form and paying a $ 5 fee.

The Village will take care of the advertising for the registered sales. Deadline to register is July 23, 2010. For information please call 708-448-1181.

Register now for fall classes at Moraine Valley

Moraine Valley Community College can help students realize their educational goals and prepare for a successful future. Registration is underway for the fall 2010 semester, which starts August 23 with on-campus credit classes. Off-campus credit classes and on-campus continuing education classes begin August 30, and off-campus continuing education classes begin September 7.

Some of the college's courses are offered in different formats to accommodate the needs of students, making it easy for people to fit college classes into their life. These Flexible Learning Options include:

- On-line classes
- Telecourses on videotape or DVD
- Short-Term Classes
- Weekend Classes
- Off-Campus Classes
- Evening Classes

A complete list of credit and noncredit classes can be found in the fall 2010 class schedule or on-line at morainevalley.edu. Registration is ongoing. Tuition is $95 per credit hour plus fees and books.

Students who have applied to the college can register in the Registration Office, located on campus in the Student Services Center (Building S), 9000 W. College Pkwy. in Palos Hills; by phone at (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556); or online at morainevalley.edu.

Veterans Administration Creates Homeless Vet Hotline

VA Secretary Eric Shinseki announced the creation of a new telephone hotline to provide emergency support and resources to homeless veterans.

The number is 1-877-4AID VET. "It is unacceptable for a single veteran to spend the night on the streets of America," said Shinseki, who added that the new National Call Center for Homeless Veterans hotline will be staffed by experts 24/7, and complement the services already provided by the VA's Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

Afghanistan Now America 's Longest War: It's a distinction no one could have foreseen, but Operation Enduring Freedom officially becomes America 's longest war ... and with no end in sight. October marked the end of 104 months of military operations, which began Oct. 7, 2001.

By comparison, Vietnam lasted 103 months, the ongoing operation in Iraq is at 86 months, the Revolutionary War took 81 months, and the Civil War and World War II lasted 48 and 44 months, respectively. To further put the length of the war in perspective, the high school graduating class of 2010 was in 3rd Grade when 9/11 happened.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 14 | July 20, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Things to be in Blue Island

Tony Melendez concert Tony Meléndez is a guitar player, composer, songwriter and singer. Born without arms, Meléndez sang "Never Be the Same" while playing the guitar with his feet in a special performance for Pope John Paul II. For tickets call 708-209-1500.When: Sunday, July 25, 2010, 7:00 p.m., $15/$25 Where: Salvation Army Community Center, 2900 W. 127th St., Blue Island

Marketing vs. Sales: Be on the forefront for 2011 An informative debate by Maribeth Hearn, cofounder and president of The Inertia Group, Inc. and Don Jones, owner and president of DRZ Enterprises, designed for businesses, large or small, that want to use the synergy of marketing and sales departments through an easy, inexpensive system that produces measurable results. When: Wednesday, July 28, 7:30-9:30 a.m., $20 (continental breakfast will be served)Where: Moraine Valley Community College, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, Bldg. T, Fogelson Theater Registration code: EV5-200-170, 708-974-5735

Cook County School District 130 debuts with a new website

Two years in the making, Cook County School District 130 unveiled its new website design at the June 17th meeting of the Board of Education. The new website features a colorful array of photos, pages for individual schools, news and events, as well as job opportunities and important documents regarding accountability. The district contracted with Americaneagle com to create a new and improved website design that was both aesthetically pleasing and chock full of informative material. The new look also brings uniformity to the district website and building staff will also be pleased with the ease of uploading content and creating pages. School website managers will also be able to create a seamless and polished look to their individual school's site without the need to use HTML or Microsoft Front Page.

Interim Technology Director Ernesto Santacruz stated, "We decided to go with Americaneagle.com because of their creativity and work on various local school district websites. They know how to capture the school atmosphere and implemented it in their websites."

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip, Blue Island , Crestwood and Robbins.

Obituary's start as low as $15 and up, per issue date.
You can add your Photo!
Call for details at 312-624-8996.
Ask for Miss Linda.

(left to right) SWSRA staff: Denise Iwinski, Marge Cozzone, Erin Lynch, Lori Chesna and William Helling, thank L.P.G.O. coordinators Laura Kane (center) and Ann Thatcher (right center) for their tremendous fundraising efforts.

18th Annual L.P.G.O. Fundraiser

The 18th Annual Fundraiser, Let's Go Play Golf Outing (L.P.G.O.), was held on Friday, July 9th, at Gleneagles Country Club in Lemont. The fundraiser had over 100 golfers in attendance along with numerous raffles, prizes and awards. A portion of the proceeds raised will benefit South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA), a non-profit organization that provides year-round recreational services for individuals with special needs.

SWSRA would like to thank Laura Kane and Anne Thatcher, two wonderful individuals who coordinate the fundraiser, for all their hard work and generosity.

For more information on L.P.G.O. or SWSRA, please contact the SWSRA office at 708-389-9423.

Concerts on the Green-Five Guys Named Moe

Our Concerts on the Green series returns to the Fountain Hills Golf Course, located at 12601 South Kedzie Avenue, Alsip, IL. The Concerts is Friday,July 23, 2010 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Five Guys Names Moe will be the featured band at this Free outdoor concert. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the evening. The Club House bar and restaurant will be open during the concert. No outside food or beverage will be permitted. For more details Call 708-389-1003, Alsip Park District or www.alsipparks.org .

National Night Out

Alsip Village Hall are asking all residents throughout the Village of Alsip and across the nation are asked to turn on their porch lights, lock their doors, and spend the evening outside with their police department and neighbors to help build a stronger community-partnership and neighborhood unity in our fight for a safe community.On August 3, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Call for more information 708-389-1003 or www.alsipparks.org.

Bingo Club

Do you like the excitement of yelling B-I-N-G-O?? Well if you do we have a trip for you. Grab a friend and sign up for this transportation only trip to the Charity Bingo Hall in Crestwood,il..

Mark your Calenders for August 11, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Participants are responsible for purchasing their own cards and any snacks they may want to enjoy!

For further information call 708-389-1003 or website www.alsipparks.org .

Uniform Policy adopted for all School District 130 K-5 Schools for 2011 to 2012 School Year

At the regular meeting of the Board of Education on July 15, 2010, the Board voted on the issue of a school uniform policy for students attending K-5 schools in the district. The Board adopted the uniform policy effective for the 2011-2012 school year for all K-5 schools, including Nathan Hale Primary and Intermediate in Crestwood, Paul Revere Primary and Intermediate in Blue Island, Lincoln in Blue Island, George Washington in Alsip, Greenwood in Blue Island , and Whittier in Blue Island .

The adoption of a school uniform policy was previously approved for all middle schools during the July 7, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Education. The adopted middle school uniform policy will be utilized as the basis of the uniform code for all K-5 schools. The Board will evaluate the experience with the middle school uniform policy by March 2011 and will finalize all uniform code and discipline policies by this date. The middle school dress code will consist of light blue short/long sleeve collared polos, navy blue slacks, solid black shoes, and a black belt without decorative buckle.

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip, Blue Island , Crestwood and Robbins.

Travelers Save Money, Fuel and Environment

Service is available to/from three hubs including Chicago, New York, Toronto and, beginning July 21 Philadelphia.

Megabus.com's also offers environmental benefits.Each megabus.com double-decker bus has the potential to remove 81 automobiles from the highway and is among the most energy and fuel efficient way to travel. Visit www.megabus.com for information about fares.

Village View

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 3 | August 3, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Queen of Peace to Hold 18th Annual Golf Classic

Queen of Peace's 18th Annual Golf Classic – Do it "Fore" the Girls - will take place Saturday, Sept. 11 at Oak Hills Country Club in Palos Heights. Registration and a continental breakfast will begin at 10 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 11 a.m.

The cost of the event is $85 and includes continental breakfast, lunch at Toby's and nine holes of golf with cart. A luncheon only option is available for $35. Complimentary soft drinks, beer and snacks will be served on the course.

Proceeds from the 18th Annual Peace Golf Classic will support student programs and the scholarship fund. Make a reservation for you or your foursome by August 25. To register, visit www.queenofpeacehs.org or call (708) 458-7600, Ext. 253 to pay by credit card.

If you want to swing a little harder, download a sponsorship form at www.queenofpeacehs.org. All donations play a vital role in helping Queen of Peace thrive for future generations of Women of Peace. Thank you for "chipping in" for the girls.

For more information, call (708)-458-7600, Ext. 250 kmetty@queenofpeacehs.org.

Attention all Schools!
Class's
Advertise in Our Back to School Issues in Color.
Call 312-624-8996.

Spyropoulos to address Trinity Lutheran Seniors

Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos, of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, will speak before the Trinity Lutheran Fellowship

Seniors, Thursday, Aug. 5 at 1 p.m. in the Trinity Lutheran Church, 9701 S. Brandt Ave., Oak Lawn.

Fern Hardt, coordinator, announced the commissioner will explain the workings of the MWRD and how to properly dispose of pharmaceuticals.

Commissioner Spyropoulos received her Law Degree from John Marshall Law School and her MBA from Loyola University, Chicago. She was appointed by Governor Quinn to the opening on the Board of Commissioners of the MWRD.

She is a member of the Chicago Bar Association, Illinois Bar Association, Women's Bar Association, The Sierra Club, Illinois League of Conservation Voters and the National Affairs Chair for the Independent Voters of Illinois. Mariyana was a researcher for Nomura Research Institute in London, England.

Summer Concert on the Village Green

The Village of Oak Lawn and the Oak Lawn Park District are sponsoring a summer concert on Sunday, August 8, 2010. 80s Enough will perform from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on the Village Green. The band, which reproduces hit songs from the 80's, prides itself on real music.

Performances are FREE and no reservations are required. Bring your own refreshments and don't forget your blankets or lawn chairs. Food will be available from Oak Lawn Cub Scouts, Christensen's Wagon, and Cornerstone Cafe.

The Village Green is located north of the Oak Lawn Library and directly east of the Municipal Center, 9446 Raymond Avenue.

For more information about the Summer Concert Series, please contact Chad Weiler at (708) 499-7837 or email cweiler@oaklawn-il.gov or visit our website at www.oaklawn-il.gov.

Evergreen Park introduces current events

Thurs. - August 5th - Evergreen Park Farmer's Market at Yukich Field, 89th & Kedzie Ave from 7am - 1pm. Lots of vendors offering fruits, vegetables, flowers, crafts and much more.

Fri. - August 6th - Free Concert in the Park featuring Cirrus Falcon at Klein Park 97th and Homan from 6-8pm.

Join the YMCA Father & Daughter Adventure Princess Program. New season will be starting in September. Visit their website for more information at www.blackhawkprincess.com

EP Youth Commission is going to have a tour of White Sox Park on Mon. Aug. 9th from 9:45am - 1pm. Includes tour, lunch and transportation. Call 229-3377 to make a reservation.

EP Recreation Department has openings in Cooking classes, outdoor soccer league and tickets for Shrek the Musical (Cadillac Theatre) August 13th Call 229-3373 for info.

Beginning this month, the State of Illinois is offering a new service connected to your driver's license. You can click on the link below and add two emergency contacts to your license data. Therefore, if you are incapacitated in some way, your license can be scanned and the emergency contacts retrieved so your loved ones can be contacted. http://www.cyberdrivenillinois.com/departments/drivers/ecd/home.

Pictured here (from left to right) is Melonie Collman, Arbonne International; Ginger Murgan, Thompson & Kuenster Funeral Home; John Crivellone, Security Associates; Christy Hernandez, Archer Bank; Michelle Williams, First Midwest Bank; Anne Marie Casey, Annie's, Ltd.; and Patti Johnson, Suburban Bank & Trust.

Oak Lawn Chamber Members Host Successful Business After Hours

Rounding out the month of July, Cha Cha's Treasures opened their doors to Chamber members for a Business After Hours on Wednesday, July 28th at their new location at 9840 S. Cicero Ave. Cha Cha's is a boutique featuring a host of unique arts and crafts items including jewelry, glassware, soaps, bean bags and more.

Business After Hours are the premier networking events for business owners and professionals. These programs give members the opportunity to discuss and share ideas while learning about other local businesses.

It is a relationship-building experience held in a relaxed setting that benefits members through added contacts and resources. Refreshments are provided and all BAHs are free for Chamber members to attend. Learn more about the Chamber at www.oaklawnchamber.com

Oak Lawn Library offers various programs

Free Movie Screening: Diary of a Wimpy Kid

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free movie screening of "The Diary of a Wimpy Kid" on Saturday, August 21 at 2 p.m. This 2010 feature film is a live-action adaptation of Jeff Kinney's illustrated novel about a wise-cracking sixth grade student. Rated: PG. Running time: 94 min.

College Aid Info from the ISAC Corps

College-bound students and their families are invited to meet with representatives from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) Corps on Tuesday, August 24 from 5-8 p.m. at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St. Stop by to learn about getting ready for college and the financial aid process. No appointment necessary.

The ISAC offers a comprehensive array of programs and services. They administer most of the key state and federal grant, scholarship, loan and prepaid tuition programs available to postsecondary students. For additional information about the ISAC, visit www.collegezone.com. For additional ISAC dates, call the library, 708 422 4990.

Ed McElroy's 85th Birthday

The above picture was taken recently at the 85th birthday party for Ed. Guests came from everywhere, all walks of life. Even Morgan Finley his friend from 1942 was there to celebrate his birthday.

Ed never forgets the media. Since Ed is the best public relations person in the Chicago area, he is never without media contacts. He is still very active with his business of Public Relations and Publicity along with his two TV shows, "The Ed McElroy Show" which is taped in Homewood and aired on Comcast Channel #19. His "Community in Focus" show is taped at Chicago Can TV Channel #19 and aired on that station.

Family has always been around Ed especially at every function he has ever held.

Top left is grandson, Michael Kirkwood, granddaughter, Lily McElroy, son-in-law, Jack Kirkwood, daughter-in-law Mary McElroy, granddaughter, Megan Kirkwood and grandson, Timothy Kirkwood. Seated left is daughter, Beth Kirkwood, Rita, Ed McElroy and son Edward, Jr.

The event was held at Ridge Country Club at 10522 South California Ave. and the buffet which I am sure Rita McElroy ordered was excellent..

At one point in the evening when Ed was introducing people, guests where giving Rita McElroy many accolades she well deserved. It was lovely seeing two happily married people of 55 years celebrating one's 85th birthday.

The Louis Valentine Boys and Girls Club charity event

There will be a Charity Event on Sat Aug 14th. The Louis Valentine Boys and Girls Club will transported on the school bus to 7700 S. Central in Burbank IL.. They will be met by the United States Veterans, Police Officers, and the Firemen who ride for the American Eagles, Lawmen & The Axmen. They will be lead the parade and travel south on Central to 123rd Central in Alsip were they will go east bound to Cicero, and then south bound to Crestwood were the Standard Bank Stadium is The Home of the Windy City Thunderbolts.

Tickets are $5. Formal Ceremonies will start at 5:30 PM. with Jeremy O'Brien, son of Ken O'Brien, and 2010 Valentine Youth of the Year, throwing out the 1st pitch along with VP Jeff Sadowski.

Alderman of Chicago's 11th Ward, Jim Balcer, who is a Vietnam Veteran will lead us with the Pledge of Allegiance, then singing Our National Anthem with Jim & Bill Dixon of The Band the Lounge Puppets.

The Vets will retire Our Colors, then it's Play Ball! The American league roster is Manager Mike Raz.
Ed Brzowski
Jim McAvoy
Mark Buduris
Mike O'Brien
Jerry Mulvihill
Steve Dichiria
Sam Pashka
Kevin Juggan.
Bob Dearth
Tim White
Joe Zeko
Ray Hernandez
Keith Contant.
Adam Byrd.
John Lopez.(Honarary Coach Hal Hann) The National Team is
Shawn Powers
Jim Dixon
Bill Dixon
Dan Peters
John Alexian
Erik Mitchell
Dan Gionvanzzi
Mike Nestad
Jim Foley
Mike Cambell
Nick Pistello
Brian Johnson
Delorean Coleman
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312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnew@sbcglobal.net

Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Senior Happenings

The Senior Center offers a wide variety of activities for Oak Lawn Seniors. In addition to all daily activities the following will be offered in August:

Wednesday, August 11th from 8:30 AM. to 5 PM. Lifeline Screening will be conducting testing. They are the leading provider of community based health screenings in the U.S. Cardiovaseular disease is the #1 killer of both men and women and a leading cause of permanent disability.

Lifeline is now taking appointments by calling 1-800-679-5192. Monday, August 16th at 10:00 AM. professional singer John Boda will entertain. His "Music Man" performanee will provide a vast seleetion of songs. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of his program.

Thursday, August 26th is Box Lunch Day. The sponsor will be Clare at Water Tower who are located at 55 East Pearson Street in Chicago. This is a premier continuing care retirement community which offers a full continuum of care and services, including assisted living, memory support, rehab skilled nursing. The presentation begins at 10:30 followed by lunch and bingo. Tickets for the presentation and lunch may be purchased for $3.50 at the Senior Center. Seating is limited.

For further details on any of the activities you may call 499-0240 or stop by at 5330 West 95 Street for a calendar of events.

Regal Sport sedan was introduced but not on the market

Buick will soon offer the 2011 Regal sport sedan to customers. Armed with turbocharged horsepower, a driver-selectable suspension system and a firm, European-tuned chassis, it delivers a driving experience that rivals the best import sport sedans in the segment.

"The 2011 Buick Regal is like nothing you've ever experienced from this brand," said Roger McCormack, director of marketing for Buick. "The Regal is the next chapter in Buick's transformation and will expand the portfolio to include a sport sedan."

The new Regal arrives in the second quarter of 2010, with its sights aimed squarely on competitors like the Acura TSX and Volvo S60. It has a longer wheelbase and greater trunk volume than those vehicles, along with standard features, including a six-speed automatic transmission, 18-inch wheels and OnStar – that aren't offered standard on either competitor.

The Regal's development is rooted in Germany, where the globally led engineering team created the award-winning Opel Insignia, the 2009 European Car of the Year. The Insignia has garnered more than 31 prestigious awards and is the bestselling midsize sedan in Europe. Regal will bring all of Insignia's award-winning design, technology and European-inspired performanee capabilities to the American market.

The Regal has already been a success on another continent, in China. It went on sale in December 2008 and more than 64,000 Regals have been sold there. Enthusiastic customers cite it's sculpted, flowing design and responsive performance as the top reasons for purchase.

A Break Through Interior

The Regal's finely crafted, sporty and well-appointed interior builds on the exceptional attention to detail found in the Enclave and LaCrosse, blending signature styling cues with contemporary sport sedan aesthetics.

Regal's firm, highly bolstered seats were benchmarked against the top import competitors for comfort and support, while a standard flow-through center console offers plenty of storage for passengers in the front and back.

Smart applications of technology are also hallmarks of the Regal, including details such as a multifunction controller on the center console for operation of the audio system, navigation system and the Bluetooth phone. The faceplate for the "infotainment" screen is set at a 30 degree angle to contribute to the car's flowing interior design.

A new era in Buick design is also seen in the satin metallic, piano black and new, Kibo-patterned interior trim materials.

Buick is in the midst of a transformation that started with the Enclave luxury crossover and continues with the completely redesigned LaCrosse luxury sedan and Regal sport sedan. Buick is emerging as a modern, premium brand with vehicles characterized by sculpted designs, personal technologies, luxurious interiors and responsive performance. In the future Buicks will be found in North America and China.

More information can be found at www.buick.com

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Tour de Road America Returns to Elkhart Lake 's Road America on August 20.

Auto racing fans and cyclists from around the Midwest are anxiously awaiting the return of the Tour de Road America "Bike Ride to Fight Cancer" on August 20, when American Le Mans Series drivers and their teams, fans and families, local cyclists, and cancer survivors take to the famous 14 turns and hills of the scenic 4.0 mile Road America auto racing circuit to do their part in the fight against cancer.

The family-friendly fund-raising ride begins at approximately 6:15 P.M., following the day's auto racing activities. The ride is open to cyclists of all abilities, and all kinds of bikes. It's the highlight of many cyclists' summer – the chance to pedal a smooth track, with no traffic, as the sun sets over the scenic Kettle Moraine countryside of Elkhart Lake .

Professional race car drivers rank Road America circuit as their track, whether they're competing in their cars, or pedaling for a great cause.

The "Bike Ride to Fight Cancer" benefits the Austin Hatcher Foundation for Pediatric Cancer, the official charity of the American Le Mans Series, as well as the Lance Armstrong Foundation and the Vince Lombardi Cancer Clinic in Sheboygan , Wisconsin

The track challenges drivers and cyclists with its turns and hills, but is still kid and beginner-friendly enough for the entire family to participate.

"Some of our fund-raisers are just starting out, and they might do just half a lap, or maybe just one four-mile lap," remarked George Siegle, cofounder of the Tour de Road America Foundation. "But the experienced cyclists like it too because it's a good physical challenge, and they try to see if they can make it to ten laps (40 miles) before sunset."

"Last year a dozen members of Robertson Racing participated in Tour de Road America in support of the Austin Hatcher Foundation," recalled American Le Mans Series driver David Robertson. "I physically turned some laps and began to see was how many of the areas around the track are uphill, more uphill than I could feel in the car. We all are looking forward to riding again."

A silent auction of one-of-a kind motorsports memorabilia, cycling gear, and local items will take place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, culminating just before the start of the American Le Mans Series feature race on Sunday afternoon.

Although there are no advanced fund-raising requirements, participants are strongly encouraged to do so, and can earn exciting incentives for reaching various fund-raising levels.

For more information, to register for the ride, or to make a contribution, visit www.pelotonride.org

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New Classes Offer Unique Perspective on Memory Loss

10 Million U.S. Baby Boomers will develop Alzheimer's disease.

As the Baby Boomer generation ages the rate of Alzheimer's disease will increase dramatically, in fact, in 15 years, by 2025, the number of people who have Alzheimer's in Illinois will increase 14%. Immerging data suggests that there is a direct link between brain health and many other major medical conditions and there are steps you can take now to keep your brain in shape. The Alzheimer's Association – Greater Illinois Chapter is offering two memory loss classes in the Chicagoland area in August.

Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease: The Basics .

This program is designed to help you understand the difference between normal age-related memory changes and more serious memory problems that should be evaluated by a medical professional. Other topics that will be covered include the common causes of memory loss, risk factors, and the importance of an accurate diagnosis.

Wednesday, August 11, 2010
11:30a.m. – 12:30p.m.
Marian Park, Community Room
2126 West Roosevelt Road
Wheaton, IL
Just Diagnosed?

The Alzheimer's Association-Greater Illinois Chapter offers a quarterly orientation to individuals recently diagnosed with memory loss and their family members. Memory loss can be due to a diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), Alzheimer's disease, Vasenlar dementia, Frontal Temporal (FTD) dementia or Primary Progressive Aphasia (PPA).

Wednesday, August 18, 2010
2:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.
Alzheimer's Association – Greater Illinois Chapter
8430 West Bryn Mawr Avenue Suite 800
Chicago, IL.

To register for either of these programs call 847.933.2413 or visit www.alz.org/illinois

About the Alzheimer's Association - The Alzheimer's Association, the world leader in Alzheimer research and support, is the largest voluntary health organization dedicated to finding prevention methods, treatments and cure for Alzheimer's.

Since 1980, the donor supported, nonprofit Alzheimer's Association has provided reliable information and care consultation; created supportive services for families; increased funding for dementia research; and influenced public policy changes.

The Greater Illinois Chapter serves dozens of counties with offices in Bloomington , Carterville, Chicago , Joliet Rockford and Springfield .

For more information, call our Helpline at 800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/illinois.

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SWSRA Photo Contest

This winter, South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) is celebrating 30 years of providing recreational services for individuals with special needs. SWSRA invites you to join in on the festivities by participating in a friendly and fun competition. Register now for SWSRA's Fall 2011 Brochure Photo Contest. Each year, three seasonal brochures are delivered to over 3,700 homes and businesses. Brochures contain information on SWSRA programs, events and trips which are highlighted by pictures of SWSRA clients enjoying these services. The first thing that catches a reader's eye is the front cover. This is where you come in!

The fall 2010 season runs from September 20 through November 13. You are welcome to come to any programs and events (A fall 2010 brochure that contains SWSRA's schedule of programs/events can be downloaded at www.swsra.com) during this time to capture the perfect SWSRA moment in a photo

The 1st place winner will have their picture and name displayed on the front cover of the fall 2011 brochure, receive a Best Buy gift certificate and a plaque for all their hard work. Other photos may be chosen to be displayed inside the brochure and those individuals will also receive name recognition. Students, this is a great resume builder!

A packet including more information, a registration form, rules and guidelines can be downloaded at www.swsra.com or may be picked up at the SWSRA office at 12521 S. Kostner. Please contact Denise at 708-389-9423 with any questions

Blue Cap Foundation Tag Day volunteers needed

Blue Cap Foundation will be handing out Lemonhead candy and collecting donations throughout South Chicagoland on Friday, August 20th and Saturday, August 21st. Funds raised will go directly to Blue Cap's Foundation, which ensures future care and support to over 400 people with developmental disabilities. The more volunteers we have to help, the more successful we will be!

Come out and help us reach our goal of $30,000. Consider tagging for 2 hours on the 20th or 21st of August. Bring a team out and make a day of it! Sign up to volunteer by calling Blue Cap at 708/389-8137 Ext. 303 or by e-mail to JillH@Blue-Cap.org or click on the link below to download the volunteer flyer. Can't volunteer but would like to contribute?

Make sure to watch for our volunteer taggers handing out Lemonhead candy. Or contact Blue Cap's Development office at 708/389-8137 Ext. 300 to purchase a case of Lemonhead candy to place in your business or to make a monetary contribution to Blue Cap Foundation. 2155 Broadway Blue Island, IL 60406 Phone: 708.389.6578 Fax: 708.389.5086

Lipinski's National Manufacturing Strategy Act passes House

The House of Representatives passed Congressman Dan Lipinski's bipartisan National Manufacturing Strategy Act, H.R. 4692, which will help revitalize domestic manufacturing, create jobs, and ensure America is able to provide for its own defense without relying on foreign countries. The vote was 370 to 38.

"The vote shows that Washington is finally starting to listen to what I have always promoted and America's middle class has long known: we must take action to support domestic manufacturing and end the outsourcing of American jobs," Congressman Lipinski (IL-03) said.

"A strong manufacturing sector is critical to leading America out of recession. Over the last decade, we have lost one-third of all domestic manufacturing jobs.

Contrary to what some seem to believe, these job losses were not inevitable, and I do not accept the notion that there is nothing we can do. Clearly, another decade like the last one would dramatically undermine the American middle class and, most importantly, leave us unable to produce many of the goods we require for our national security.

The National Manufacturing Strategy Act will bring government and the private sector together to produce a detailed strategy for revitalizing American manufacturing that includes specific goals and recommendations on how to meet them.

Now that the Strategy Act has passed the House, I'm looking forward to turning my attention to the Senate, and I am optimistic that we can pass the measure this year. There is a tremendous amount of bipartisan support for the bill in Congress and wide support among Americans who want to see more of the 'Made in USA' label."

Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) will introduce H.R. 4692 in the Senate.

Congressman Lipinski's bill requires the President to establish a Manufacturing Strategy Board within the Commerce Department that includes federal officials, two state Governors from different parties, and nine private-sector leaders and stakeholders from the manufacturing industry.

The Board will conduct a comprehensive analysis of the manufacturing sector covering everything from trade issues to financing to the defense industrial base. Based on this analysis, the President's Board will then develop a National Manufacturing Strategy that includes short- and long-term goals for the manufacturing industry and specific recommendations on how to achieve those goals.

The recommendations may include actions that can be taken by the President, Congress, state and local governments, the private sector, universities, and industry associations. They may also include ways to improve government policies and coordination among federal agencies that impact manufacturing.

The first Strategy will be due one year after H.R. 4692 becomes law and subsequent Strategies are due every four years, in the second year of each Presidential term.

H.R. 4692 has received the support of numerous organizations, including the Alliance for American Manufacturing, National Defense Industrial Association, US Business Industry Council, National Council for Advanced Manufacturing, AFL-CIO, American Iron and Steel Institute, Association of Manufacturing Technology, National Tooling and Machining Association, Precision Metalforming Association, American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition, and Aerospace Industry Association.

A poll released last month by the Alliance for American Manufacturing found that Americans overwhelmingly favor passage of a National Manufacturing Strategy and believe more must be done to stem the loss of manufacturing jobs. At a hearing two weeks ago before the Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection, industry representatives and experts testified that the National Manufacturing Strategy Act will help revitalize America's hard-hit industrial sector.

"After 35 years in the industry, I can tell you America's manufacturing strategy, insofar as we have one, isn't getting the job done," said William M. Hickey Jr., president of Chicago-based Lapham-Hickey Steel Corp., which is located in the Third District. "Our economy has become totally imbalance due to outsourcing and an overemphasis on financial services. Congressman Lipinski's National Manufacturing Strategy Act will ensure America has a real debate about how to help Main Street provide jobs to our citizens and get away from taxpayer-funded bailouts for Wall Street."

"We commend Congressman Lipinski for his authorship of H.R. 4692," said Scott N. Paul, executive director of the Alliance for American Manufacturing. "There is no question that America needs a manufacturing strategy to revitalize the sector that drives the rest of the economy. The case for a permanent capacity for strategic planning on our manufacturing base, evolving and innovating to make use of our workers' skills and the latest technology as well as to respond to global trends, could not be stronger."

Under the bill, every year, the President's Board will provide an updated review of the state of manufacturing, assess the implementation of the Strategy's recommendations, and recommend ways to further the Strategy's implementation. In addition, the Government Accountability Office will analyze the implementation of the Strategy, its recommendations, and the process for developing the Strategy. Public hearings will be held prior to the Strategy's development and a draft of the report will be made available for 30 days for public comments that may be incorporated into the final version.

"We can disagree over such issues as the impact of America's trade agreements and our failure to address China's mercantilist policies, but I believe that there is broad support for developing and implementing a manufacturing strategy," Congressman Lipinski said. "Passage of this bill will finally put American manufacturing on Washington's agenda and make it impossible to continue to ignore the industry's importance or gloss over its difficulties."

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Big Run Wolf Ranch's phone number is (815) 588-0044, located at 14857 Farrell Road , email or visit www.bigrunwolfranch.org for more information about Big Wolf Ranch and it's weekly specials email at bigrunwolf@aol.com

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Together we Cope provides school supplies to local children

Each year Together We Cope provides new school supplies to local children. Last year this program included over 1100 children. Each received a backpack and grade appropriate school supplies.

We expect that number to reach 1500 this year. We are asking for your support in order to assist our neighbors in need. Please consider donating any necessities such as paper, pens, folders or notebooks.

To see a complete list of needed supplies and drop-off locations, please visit www.togetherwecope.org or email to the following swolk@togetherwecope.org tkessens@togetherwecope.org. Please help us to provide a fresh start for a success filled school year.

Backpack family fair in Orland Park

Calling all child-oriented businesses. District 135 is planning the first ever Backpack BLISS Family Fair, to be held Wednesday, August 18, 2010, at Meadow Ridge School from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

This event is an EXPO designed with Orland's kids in mind. Child oriented organizations and businesses are invited to host a table where District 135 families can learn more about the services they provide for our area youth. Sports groups, Scout programs, special education services, tutoring providers, local day cares, and more are being encouraged to participate in this event. In addition to the business booths, the District's food service company will offer samples of their menu items and there will be a craft area for kids.

Attached to this email is a letter explaining more about the Family Fair, as well as a registration form if you are interested in hosting a table for your business.

If you have any questions, visit the event w w w . o r l a n d 1 3 5 . o r g / Family-Fair.asp or email bmcguiggan@orland135.org. Thank you for your consideration.

Fight hunger in Orland Park

Midas Complete Auto Service is hosting a Cruise Night to FIGHT Hunger on Saturday, August 14th, 6-9pm. Got a COOL Antique or Hot Rod? Bring it! All Cars Are Welcome to Show! Registration at 5pm. Free to public; Donations to local food pantry are encouraged.

Come enjoy cars, food, music, raffles, and FUN! Trophy to Best in Show! All proceeds to benefit the Orland Park Food Pantry. Location: Midas, 14810 S. LaGrange Rd. Orland Park, IL 60462. For more information, call (708)349-1750.

Oak Forest News for the Village

Pay parking and local ordinance tickets online. You now can pay parking and local ordinance tickets online by visiting the "Police" section of the city's Web site at www.oak-forest.org.

Join the Sock It to Me campaign. Oak Forest resident Janet Lavelle wants you to "sock it to her." Lavelle is collecting socks for South Suburban Pads, an inter-faith program providing shelter and supportive services to homeless persons, as part of the Sock It to Me campaign.

City to host health screenings that could save your life. The City of Oak Forest is pleased to offer preventive health screenings in collaboration with Life Line Screening. The screenings are offered on Friday, August 6 at the Community Center (15501 S. Kilpatrick) and test for stroke risk, vascular disease, and bone density. For more information or to pre-register, call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com.

Don't miss the back-to-school event at the Oak Forest Commons Shopping Center On Saturday, August 7. Inland Commercial Property Management will host a back-to-school event at the Oak Forest Commons Shopping Center (159th Street and Central Avenue) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will include sidewalk sales, giveaways and discounts as well as a coloring contest, car seat safety check, fire truck tours, and much more.

Question of the Week. Did the Oak Forest Chamber of Commerce change its name? Yes, the organization changed its name to the Oak Forest-Crestwood Area Chamber of Commerce to reflect its broadened commitment to enhancing the business community in both areas.

"By growing the chamber's strength and influence in the south suburbs, we can more appropriately address the economic strain many small businesses are feeling today," said Andy Tinberg, the organization's unification committee chair. "Together, Oak Forest and Crestwood small businesses have a louder voice and greater strength to address the challenges they are facing."

To learn more about the the Oak Forest Chamber www.oakforestchamber.org.

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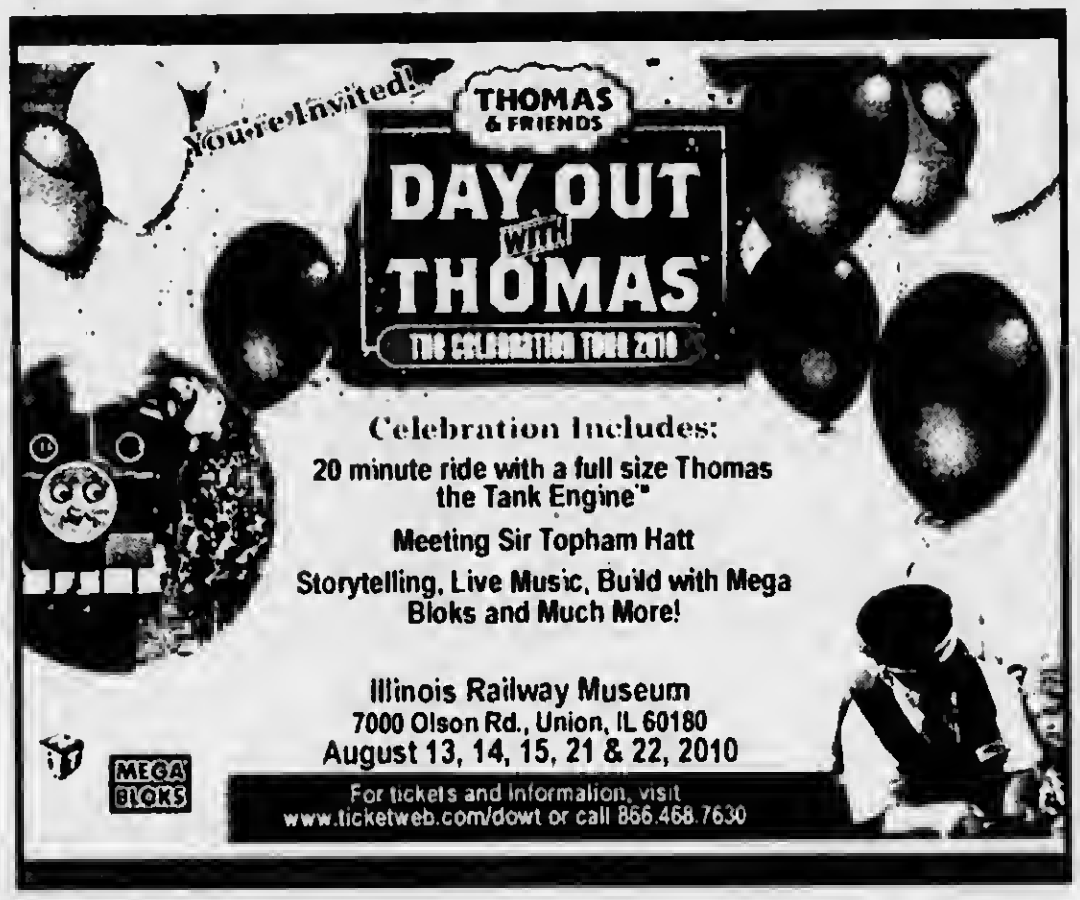

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11:00 am
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Learn of the value, services and benefits of living at Smith Village

"The Dollars and Sense of Smith Village"
Tuesday, August 24th, 11:00 am
You are invited to join us for an informative presentation with Smith Senior Living CFO, Deborah Hart along with a tour of our community, model apartments and luncheon

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Day out with Thomas The Celebration Tour 2010

All aboard for the best birthday party ever! Thomas the Tank Engine™ is coming to town to celebrate with all of his fans. Thomas, the beloved and courageous storybook engine, is set to roll into The Illinois Railway Museum for Day Out With Thomas™: The Celebration Tour 2010, presented by HIT Entertainment, a worldwide leader in children's entertainment, and sponsored by MEGA Brands, a leading toy company. This fun-filled event offers preschools and their families the opportunity to take a ride with a 15-ton replica of Thomas the Tank Engine, star of the popular Thomas & Friends™ series. Children will ride along with their favorite hero on his latest adventure. The tour, now in its 15th year, will make stops in more than 45 US cities and is expected to welcome more than one million passengers in 2010. This year also marks Thomas the Tank Engine's 65th publishing anniversary and fans are invited to partake in some choo choo-riffic celebratory activities!

WHO: Thomas the Tank Engine

WHAT: • A 25-minute (approximate) ride with Thomas the Tank Engine

• An opportunity to meet Sir Topham Hatt, Controller of The Railway

• Activities for the whole family – including arts & crafts, storytelling, video viewing, live music, puppet shows, magic shows, clowns, mini-golf, model railroads, hand-car rides and an inflatable bouncy castle.

• A special display at every DOWT location celebrating 65 years of Thomas the Tank Engine

• 2011 commemorative merchandise and giveaways, including a mini-view finder giveaway that tells the story of Thomas' upcoming adventure, Misty Island Rescue

WHEN: August 13-15 & 21-22, 2010

TIME: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM; Gates open at 9:00 AM

WHERE: 7000 Olson Road, Union, IL (in McHenry County)

Tickets for Day Out With Thomas: The Celebration Tour 2010 are on sale now and available by calling Ticketweb toll-free 866-468-7630, or by visiting www.ticketweb.com/thomas.html or www.IRM.org.

Ticket prices are $18 plus tax for ages 2 and up service charges and fee may apply.

For more information and directions contact the Illinois Railway Museum at 815-923-4999 or 1-800-BIG-RAIL. For information on Thomas & Friends, visit www.thomasandfriends.com/dowt

Palos Park Library holds preschool story time

Join us for Preschool Story Time at the Palos Park Public Library every Tuesday at 6:30pm beginning August 10th and running through October 26th.

The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park. To register for this program contact the library at (708)-448-1530 or visit us at www.palosparklibrary.org

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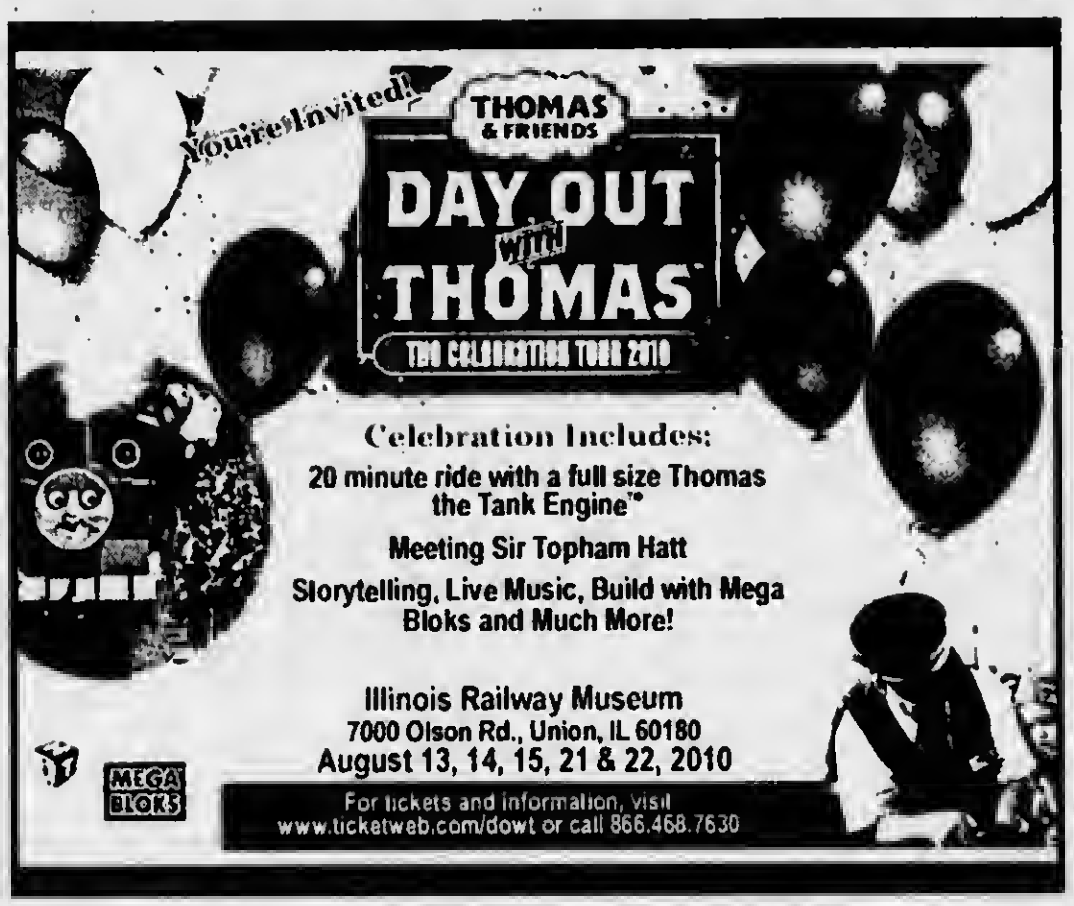

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Ronald McDonald House Thanks Maria High School NHS

Maria High School students Yesenia Bautistia (left), of Back of the Yards, and Maria Pina, of Brighton Park, worked hard to achieve a Ronald McDonald House certificate labeled "Thanks a Million Club." The school's National Honor Society members recently joined the "Thanks a Million Club" by donating one million pop tabs to the Ronald McDonald House near Loyola University Medical Center.

The donation of pop tabs, weighing in at nearly 800 pounds, was delivered by Bridget La Porte, NHS moderator. Pina, who was elected 2010-2011 NHS president, said, "I think it's an incredible accomplishment. It took a lot of hard work and collaboration." Money received from the pop tabs will help support the operating cost of the Ronald McDonald House, which is for families of ill and injured children receiving care at the Ronald McDonald Children's Hospital at the medical center.

The 2009-2010 NHS officers, who brought the project to success, are Jessica De Paz (president), of Chicago Lawn; Brittany Dunigan (secretary), of Gresham; Isabel Equihua (sergeant at arms), of Bridgeport; Erin Hederman (vice president), of West Lawn; Jennifer Rodriguez (parliamentarian), of West Lawn; and Yulisa Sanchez (treasurer), of Brighton Park.

Other 2009-2010 members include seniors: Eliza Bacani, of Marquette Park; Keyahna Curry, of Brainerd; Maria Hernandez, of West Lawn; Arelis Maciel, of Cicero; Paloma Maciel, of Chicago Lawn; Carolina Ojeda, of Little Village; Cabrittany Price, Wrightwood; and Lydia Willis, of Woodlawn; juniors: Y. Bautista; Tyna Bowens, of Woodlawn; Jennifer Franco, of Chicago Lawn; Maritza Gonzalez, of Brighton Park; Nancy Guzman, of Wrightwood; Sara Iguodala, of Chatham; Miriam Ocampo, of Chicago Lawn; Joceline Peralta, Gage Park; M. Pina; Melissa Shachter, of Pilsen; and Joy Smith, of Wrightwood; and sophomores: Guadalupe Avila, of West Lawn; Eleanore Bacani, of Marquette Park; Saira Bautista, of Chicago Lawn; Paulina Lopez, of Brighton Park; Juliana Pater, of Berwyn; and Joselyn Uribe, of Chicago Lawn.

For information about Maria High School, please contact Mario Escobedo at 773-925-8686, ext. 116, or visit us at mariahighschool.org.

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AUGUST 2010 Calendar of Events

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	3 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	4 Movie & Popcorn "17 Again" 1:00 p.m.	5 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	6 Monthly Birthday Celebration! 12:30 p.m.
9 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	10 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	11 Movie & Popcorn "Leap Year" 1:00 p.m.	12 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	13 Let's Play Bingo! 1:00 p.m.
16 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	17 Dental Seminar 10:00 a.m. Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	18 Movie & Popcorn "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" 1:00 p.m.	19 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	20 Tropical Luau Party! 1:00 p.m.
23 Dental Seminar 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	24 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	25 Movie & Popcorn "The Notebook" 1:00 p.m.	26 Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m.	27 Join us for a Workshop: Grandparents' Rights! 1:00 p.m.
30 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.	31 Tai Chi 1:00 p.m.			

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The Economy

By: Jerome R. Haymaker

This economic situation has been coming for a long time. I realized it years ago that more rapid job losses were occurring than new jobs being created by advancements in technology. I am not the first person to recognize the possibility of this happening. Henry Ford noted (as workers were replaced by machines) that machines don't buy cars. Kurt Vonnegut wrote a story where the machines ran by themselves and even repaired themselves, leaving all the former workers without employment.

Advancements have been making it possible to gain more and more productivity from workers so that now massive amounts of work can be accomplished with very few man hours. This should be a great accomplishment and a boon to the economic possibilities for the country and the world. It's not, because no system is in place to utilize the skills of the excess workers and the excess profits are not used to make further advancements in science and technology.

It was explained to me in my economics class how trade can improve the situation. For example when Canada can supply wood because of vast forest and the U.S. can trade coal because of vast reserves then both countries benefit from it. An example of when it doesn't work is when the U.S. buys billions of dollars worth of merchandise from a trade partner and the trade partner only buys raw materials, company stock, land and national bonds to reciprocate.

The politicians of yesteryear repeatedly stated that tariffs keep jobs in America and they were correct. Everyone knew that we could by products cheaper if they were made in other countries with lower labor costs. The basis of the capitalist system was that the companies of the U.S. would provide taxes to run the country and employ Americans so they could buy houses and provide for their families. The goods produced would supply the goods demanded by society. Now the companies are multinationals that pay little or no taxes. Most of the labor to produce goods is done off-shore to reduce their costs and the taxes paid by shareholders on profits, (who may be foreigners); may go to another country.

The system is broke and no-one will admit it because they want everyone to spend money. Telling everyone everything is ok is not much of a solution, and it won't fix anything. Money is like a wheel that must go around or it will stop turning.

To solve any problem you must first recognize, what is the problem. Making excuses for why a problem happened like the home mortgage problem avoids saying people don't have jobs that will pay the mortgage price. Lots of money is around but the people that need it don't have it and the people that do have it don't want to give any of it up even if it wrecks the economy.

Editor's Note: This article is well written. We all know that the reason why the home mortgage problem occurred. It was because of poor lending practises. Plus it has been going on far too long.

It was the greed of the banking industry. Wells Fargo was one of the major contributors of poor lending practises.

Two of the largest banks are still denying that they are on a list of banks having to be bailed out by the government.

So it's the wheel all right that must revolve, but you can't develop jobs unless the banks can lend the money for small businesses to start hiring again.

And from what I understand, it's not happening.

Kiwanis Club of Blue Island to sell Entertainment 2011 Books for Fundraiser

Kiwanis Club of Blue Island, IL. is selling the popular Entertainment 2011 book to raise funds to support our service projects. The fundraising camp again will begin on Tuesday August 10, 2010 and will continue through Saturday November 20, 2010.

Books only cost $25, with a portion of the proceeds from every book supporting the Kiwanis Club of Blue Island, IL. To place an order, please call Marty Longo, of the Kiwanis Club of Blue Island, IL at (708) 263-9267, www.blueislandkiwanis.org, or you can mail a check or money order for $25 per book payable to Kiwanis Club of Blue Island, IL. and mail it to: Kiwanis Club of Blue Island, IL., P.O. Box 604, Blue Island, IL. 60406-0604. If you do not live in or near Blue Island, please add $6 for a shipping charge.

Each Entertainment membership provides people with thousands of dollars of savings in deals on the things they do everyday such as dine out, shop, entertainment, travel and more.

Friday Night Movies on the Village Green

The Village of Oak Lawn and the Oak Lawn Park District are sponsoring a summer movie night on Friday, August 13, 2010. Twilight, rated PG-13, tells the story of a teenage girl who falls in love with a vampire. Friday Night Movies begin at dusk!

Movies are free and no reservations are required. Bring your own refreshments and don't forget your blankets or lawn chairs. Food will be available from Oak Lawn Cub Scouts, Christensen's Wagon, and Cornerstone Café.

The Village Green is located north of the Oak Lawn Library and directly east of the Municipal Center, 9446 Raymond Avenue.

For more information about the Friday Night Movie Series, please contact Chad Weiler at (708) 499-7837 or email cweiler@oaklawn-il.gov or visit our website at www.oaklawn-il.gov.

St. Martin Commercial Class of 1960 holding their 50th reunion! Looking for Eleanor Krahn Stewart and Alice Swiderski Call 312-624-8996

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www.VillageofWorth.com

The 48 hour film project takes a different approach to filmmaking in Chicago

Chicago has recently played host to more than a few major motion pictures, including Transformers 3 and the yet untitled Ron Howard movie starring Vince Vaughn. A very different, but equally intriguing, film endeavor will be coming to Windy City the weekend of August 13th, as filmmakers participate in the 6th annual Chicago 48 Hour Film Project competition.

Helicopters, paratroopers and large explosions will most likely not be used in these productions, but Chicago filmmakers will be forced to get just as creative and embrace the art of filmmaking while under strict time restrictions to write, shoot, edit and score a 4-7 minute film in 48 hours.

"The 48 Hour Film Project is one of the best creative outlets and one of the most challenging that you can imagine! It's any idea you can capture—no matter how wild, wacky, weird, or wonderful," says Bill Dyszel, a seasoned 48 Hour Film Project participate who has submitted over 20 films during the 11 years the competition has been in existence.

"I'm an unusual case in that I'm a one-man team—I create the entire film myself, without assistance, I write, act, shoot, edit and deliver single-handed", says Dyszel. "I've screened on the same 48 Hour Film programs with teams that had 100 crewmembers and spent $5000 renting Hollywood soundstages. You'll see the gamut at the 48 Hour Film Project, everything from Hollywood-level productions to high school teams making the first film they've ever shown in public."

The Chicago 48 Hour Film Project producers recently announced the advisory board and judges for the Chicago edition, who will help in creating awareness for the competition. Members of the board include Betsy Steinberg, Managing Director of the Illinois Film Office as well as leaders from the Advertising and Production community. "The Illinois Film Office is committed to supporting the film, advertising and production communities in Illinois. The 48 Hour Film Project is a great opportunity to showcase the incredible depth of creative talent our state has to offer, and we're excited to be a supporter of this year's fest." Says Betsy Steinberg, Managing Director of the Illinois Film Office.

Registration for this year's competition remains open through August 12th and can be done at www.48hourfilm.com/chicago. Chicago is one of the 89 cities worldwide that will be participating in the 48 Hour Film Project. The actual Chicago competition takes place August 13th beginning at 7:00 PM. and will end August 15th at 7:00 PM.

As part of the competition, each team participating in the Chicago 48 Hour Film Project will be assigned a genre, character, prop, and line of dialogue that they must work into their short film. They are responsible for putting together a cast and crew, and getting equipment and anything else necessary to make a film/video in just a weekend. Any team, regardless of skill level, is eligible to participate in this competition. Films submitted even one minute late will be disqualified.

The films will screen during a three-day premiere August 17th, 18th and 19th at the historic Landmark Century Centre Cinema (2828 N. Clark) from 7:00 until 9:30 PM. A "Best of" screening, showcasing winning films from the premiere, will be held August 26th at the Oak Timbers Loft (344 N. Ogden Avenue). Tickets for the screenings at the Landmark Cinema can be purchased at www.landmarktheatres.com or at Landmark box office.

About LimeGreen

Headquartered in Chicago, LimeGreen Entertainment Group, LLC is an awardwinning marketing communications agency and the city producer of the 2010

Chicago 48 Hour Film Project. To learn more about LimeGreen Entertainment Group, please visit www.limegreen.net.

About the 48 Hour Film Project

The 48 Hour Film Project is the oldest and largest timed film competition in the world. The 48 Hour Film Project's mission is to advance filmmaking and promote filmmakers. The tight 48-hour deadline puts the focus squarely on the filmmakers, emphasizing creativity and teamwork and "doing" instead of "talking."

The emphasis is also on building communities of local creative people facilitating making new connections, showcasing skills, and celebrating what creativity and teamwork can accomplish in just one weekend. In 2008, more than 30,000 filmmakers in 70 cities participated in the festival.

Arts Midwest supports Moraine Valley

Moraine Valley Community College has received two grants from Arts Midwest to support shows in the college's Fine and Performing Arts Center during the 2010-2011 performance season. A $2,000 grant was awarded for Doctor Kaboom!, and a $2,580 grant was awarded for The Mystical Arts of Tibet.

A Theater for Young Audiences production, Doktor Kahoom! will perform at Moraine Valley on February 13. This interactive, one-man science variety show is suitable for all ages. Creatively blending theater arts with the wonders of scientific exploration, Doktor Kaboom entertains and educates his audience with humor and content that ties directly into mandated education curriculum standards.

The Mystical Arts of Tibet will return to Moraine Valley on April 2. The performance features the famed multi-phonic singers of Drepung Loseling monastery and artists who will create a mandala sand painting.

Each of the main chant masters simultaneously intones three notes, thus each individually creating a complete chord, known as "overtone singing." The Tibetans are the only culture on earth that cultivates this extraordinary vocal ability.

This grant is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts with additional contributions from Arts Midwest's nine-member state arts agencies, General Mills Foundation, and Land O'Lakes Foundation.

For more information about this performances, morainevalley.edu/fpac or call Moraine Valley's Box Office at (708) 974-5500

Award Winning Eisenhower High School Dance Team to perform

The Cardinal Dance Team from Eisenhower High School, Blue Island, will get the crowds moving to the beat after the Radio Disney Event in Blue Island. The award-winning dance team will perform "March Around the World," during a live performance by local song writer, Joshua Welton.

The song was written for MetroSouth Medical Center and stresses the value of a healthy life-style for kids. Welton, who grew up in Aurora, was a top ten finalist for MetroMix Chicago's 2010 "Rock N Vote" contest.

He presently writes and records music and performs in the group called MWAH- Messages Which Are Hopeful. MWAH is a performing troupe that travels to schools in Illinois, Texas and Kentucky. MWAH uses music, spoken word, and sketches to communicate the problems associated with racism, bullying, and peer pressure.

At 12:00 p.m., Friday, Aug. 6, The dance team will perform during the 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. TGIF event at MetroSouth Park on York St. and Western Avenue .

The TGIF picnics include music, dancing, delicious food and a chance to win raffle prizes. One lucky person who completes the Radio Disney passport tour could be the winner of the "Ultimate VIP package" That package includes an opportunity for a family of four to meet the Radio Disney artist performing at Chicago's Magnificent Mile Lights Festival, Nov. 20.

Essay Contest: Kids also have a chance to enter the "Tune-Up Time for Dads" essay contest, by writing about why their dad, or another important man in their life, needs a physical. The grand prize winner will receive four tickets to a White Sox game. Essays are due August 6 and kids MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com for complete contest requirements.

The cartoon characters found in the swamp.

Shrek The Musical is at the Cadillac Palace until Sept. 5

This was another great musical for Chicago! Shrek is not only colorful with the expertise of Tim Hatley... Winner of 2009 Tony Award for Best Costume Design for his work on Shrek, The Musical, but also the lighting from Hugh Vanstone. This is based on the animated film and does vary in story. Shrek (a wonderful performance by Eric Peterson) finds his swamp has been taken over by many cartoon characters (Pinnocchio,Peter Pan,The Ugly Duckling,Big Bad Wolf, and many more) who have been sent there by Lord Farquaad (deftly handled by David F.M. Vaughn who plays this character, a dwarf, on his knees.

Farquaad hires Shrek and his new buddy, Donkey (the very funny Alan Mingo,Jr.) to do the job. Fiona (the lovely Haven Burton) is guarded by a dragon (a masterful piece of puppetry that will astound you. The "ynung Fiona" (Madison Mullahey and young Shrek(Scarlett Diaz) both start us on a marvelous journey.

Shrek, the Musical will continue at the Cadillac Palace Theatre through September 5th, with performances as follows:

Wednesdays at 2 and 7:30 p.m.
Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.
Fridays at 8p.m.
Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m.
Sundays at 1 and 6:30 p.m.

Tickets range from $25-$90 and are available at the theater box office (151 W. Randolph Street) or any of the other Broadway In Chicago box offices, by phone at 800-775-2000, at all Ticketmaster outlets and on-line at www.BroadwayInChicago.com

To learn more about the production visit www.ShrekTheMusical.com

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Decorator's Notebook

Redesigning Your Dwelling With Budget-Friendly, Do-It-Yourself Decor

You can create great storage places to keep your one-of-a-kind finds and still keep most of your money

(NAPSA)-In today's tight economy, many people are trading off instead of trading up, according to a recent study by Yankelovich, and recommitting to their existing home in the process.

Luckily, whether your design taste is traditional, vintage, rustic or romantic, you don't have to go penniless for home improvement. You can revamp your space with savvy shopping for simple and affordable new accessories or do-it-yourself (DIY) projects. To help get started, there are some things you should consider.

Set a goal and budget for your remodeling face-lift. Scour magazines and catalogs and watch various design shows for inspirational ideas, looking for items that fit your aesthetic.

One-of-a-kind finds such as rugs, lamps, pillows, art and other accessories may be inexpensive and can provide an instant update to lackluster rooms. When it comes to furniture and room accents, pieces from different styles can be mixed and matched for an eclectic blend.

In addition to new accessories, quick DIY fixes, such as giving the walls a fresh coat of paint, reupholstering flea-market finds or replacing existing hardware and lighting fixtures, can make a dramatic improvement yet can still be inexpensive.

For smaller rooms or those prone to clutter, consider adding efficient storage, such as shelving or a DIY room organizer. These are excellent keep-it-all-together solutions to frame the TV, store DVDs or display that collection of vases and books. A laminate storage product, like ClosetMaid(r) Selectives(r), can be easy to install and customized to fit a variety of needs and design visions.

For more storage solutions or to access an online design tool, visit www.ClosetMaid.com. For additional information, call (800) 874-0008.

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Protecting Your Finances

Be Credit Smart And Prevent Identity Theft

(NAPSA)-You may know that a credit score can affect your ability to qualify for a loan, but did you know that a credit score also affects auto and homeowners insurance premiums? Because unauthorized activity can negatively impact your credit score, knowing how to protect yourself from identity theft is important. Identity theft protection can provide ongoing credit monitoring and management so you can keep a close watch on your information and be alerted about activities that could indicate identity theft.

A study by Javelin Strategy & Research showed that the number of identity theft incidents has increased in recent years. Banks are responding by offering tools that help educate consumers while also monitoring their credit. "Customers are not only interested in getting their credit scores but also in understanding them better and tracking how they change over time," Melanie Donaghy, vice president, Wells Fargo, said. "It's important to understand how your financial activity affects your credit score-and that includes keeping an eye out for any unauthorized activity that could affect it."

For example, Enhanced Identity Theft Protection, now available through Wells Fargo Insurance for a small monthly fee, includes monthly triple-bureau credit reports and scores, online calculators, a credit score tracker and credit score alerts if your score changes.

One of the tools, an online Credit Score Simulator, allows customers to see how a credit score changes if they apply for a credit card, refinance a loan, reduce debt on mortgages or credit cards, or consolidate debt into a new account. Filling in the different situations and then running the scenario gives a clear picture of how financial decisions affect credit scores.

"Our research has shown that fraudsters are getting savvier, so it's more important than ever that people protect their data and report fraud as soon as it's discovered," said James Van Dyke, president and founder, Javelin Strategy & Research. Many financial institutions offer instructions on their websites on how to report suspicious activity. Wells Fargo, for example, has a Fraud Information Center available to the public (www.wellsfargo.com/privacy_security/fraud) with tools and resources to reduce the risk of fraud and identity theft.

It's important to know how to protect your credit score.

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Choose a light color for your home's exterior to make it look larger

Tips To Enhance Your Home's Street View

(NAPSA) Homeowners looking to improve their home's curb appeal have an array of options with many new innovative products and easy home improvement projects.

At the 2010 International Builders' Show, more than 1,200 exhibitors featured home improvement products. CertainTeed Corporation offers the following tips to help homeowners brighten their homes:

• Get ideas from neighbors. Look at neighboring homes. Color should set a home apart, without clashing with or copying the home next door. Also, consider your neighborhood; in a traditional area, you may want to choose a more natural, common color.

• Create an outdoor living space. Homeowners can enhance the exterior of their home by adding outdoor living space with a deck or an outdoor cooking area. EverNew vinyl decking and railing products are a great option. Virtually maintenance-free and designed to beautifully withstand the elements.

• Choose light color for big impact. White is a favored color for traditional architecture because light colors make a home appear bigger.

• Honor the past. Homeowners with older homes might want to honor original themes and design aesthetics. Hiring a professional to help match paint chips and re-create original colors is one way to go. Homeowners can also do research on trends and styles that were popular when the home was built.

• Remember the roof. Picking a color for a house that will harmonize with roofing shingles is important, as the roof largely contributes to overall curb appeal. Homeowners can replicate the depth and dimension of a natural slate roof with Grand Manor luxurious multi-layered laminated shingles. Offered in bold colors for a dramatic appearance, Grand Manor provides style and grace at every angle at a more affordable price than real slate.

• Choose color that lasts. The darker the hue, the more likely it is to fade, so homeowners should choose long-lasting siding or paint. Monogram 46 siding from CertainTeed is low maintenance and never needs painting. The designer palette of over 30 siding and trim colors is inspired by nature and designed to harmonize home and environment. The PermaColor system uses state-of-the-art pigment chemistry to guarantee lifetime fade protection.

Picture it. Use a helpful online tool such as the ColorView program to visualize your home with a custom exterior.

Visit www.certainteed.com/colorview/landing.aspx to get started.

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By Paul Cook

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Village View

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Volume 8 | Number 15 | August 3, 2010

FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Scholarships for children of police and firefighter's children

Robert Morris University is proud to extend a full-tuition scholarship to sons and daughters of Orland Park and Tinley Park firefighters and police officers in recognition of their service to the community.

Students must attend the Robert Morris University Orland Park Campus located at 43 Orland Square Drive. All students must submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Fall term begins September 27.

For more information, call 708-226-5333 or visit robertmorris.edu. *Scholarships are limited and available on a first-come, first serve basis

Photo by Wehmeier Portraits

Dave Kemp of Kemp Promotions discusses the importance of distributing promotional materials at the 2009 Expo Do's and Don'ts Seminar held at the Orland Park Public Library. The seminar, hosted by the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce, provides those planning on participating in Expos with valuable tips and suggestions from seasoned veterans. The 2010 Expo Do's and Don'ts Seminar will be held at the Orland Park Public Library on Thursday, August 19 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. All are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to (708) 349-2972 or by visiting the Chamber's website at www.orlandparkchamber.org.

Chamber Offers Expo Planning Tips

Community Expos are a great way for local businesses to connect with many potential customers. Preparing for these events can sometimes seem overwhelming and there are many unwritten tips that can help make an appearance at an Expo successful.

The Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting an Expo Do's and Don'ts seminar for those businesses and organizatinns beginning to plan for the upcoming Expo season. The seminar will be held at the Orland Park Public Library on Thursday, August 19 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.

The Chamber has assembled seasoned Expo veterans to help participants in their planning process. Participants will be able to visit mock Expo booths and hear suggestions and demonstrations on some effective ways of interacting with Expo attendees.

A question and answer session will take place with everyone encouraged to share their own tips and suggestions in order to help exhibitors make the most of the Expo day. Non-chamber members are welcome to attend. The library is located as 14921 S. Ravinia Avenue in Orland Park . For more information, contact the Chamber at 708-349-2972.

Lipinski Urges Federal Aid for Flooding Victims

Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-03) is urging area residents and business owners impacted by last weekend's heavy rains and flooding to provide their municipality with a written description of the damage they suffered in order to help the State of Illinois as it works toward requesting federal assistance for those affected.

Area residents can visit the Congressman's Web site at www.lipinski.house.gov to download a standard damage questionnaire. These should be filled out and provided as soon as possible to the municipality in which the damaged property is located. Collection of damage reports is critical to the State's ability to successfully request that the President declare a disaster and make federal aid available.

"The Third District includes a number of areas that were hit hard by last weekend's torrential rains," Congressman Lipinski said. "Many of my constituents suffered extensive damage, which is why I strongly support Governor Quinn's ongoing effort to conduct the necessary damage assessment so he can make the best possible case to the President for providing federal resources. There's no doubt in my mind that the flooding we experienced qualifies as a disaster."

Before the Governor can request that the President declare a disaster, a thorough damage assessment must be conducted. Should the President make a disaster declaration, the Federal Emergency Management Agency would then determine what specific types of assistance would be available and which individuals and entities would be eligible for aid.

"I have tremendous sympathy for all those who were impacted by the downpour," Congressman Lipinski said. "The flooding that occurred in some areas was extraordinary. But so too has been the response among those impacted. In addition, dedicated police officers and firefighters, public works crews, and local and state officials have been working around the clock to keep the public safe and repair the damage done. To ensure the recovery effort continues to move forward, we need residents to help make the case for federal support. While the decision to declare a disaster lies solely with the President, I intend to make it clear that I believe aid is needed."

Village of Orland Park to Host Taste of Orland Park 2010

Seventh Annual Food Fest Showcases Local Eateries

The Village of Orland Park has announced a mouth-watering menu for its seventh annual **Taste of Orland Park**. Seventeen Orland Park restaurants will sell a variety of food and drinks during the 3-day village sponsored event, at the **Orland Park Village Center**, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue . Admission and parking are free.

"The Taste is a salute to Orland Park where we're able to showcase some of the best eateries in town, enjoy local talent and where people can learn more about community groups and organizations," said Orland Park Mayor Dan McLaughlin.

Showcased Orland Park restaurants include Burrito Jalisco, Café Gaston, Cooper's Hawk, Culver's of Orland Park, Fathurger, Hienie's McCarthy's, Kismet, Mo's Chinese Kitchen, Oberweis Dairy, Old Town Pizza, Palermo's, Papa Joe's, Plaza Café, R.C. Mulligan's, Rock Bottom Brewery, Sam Maguire's and Taj Mahal.

Participating restaurants must be located within the Village of Orland Park . When restaurants register, they submit what they'll be serving and each "taste" is no more than $4.00 a dish.

Blummer added, "The Taste of Orland Park offers something for everyone, for the little ones at Kids' Day, the car buffs on Sunday, community groups getting their messages out and live entertainment and great food."

On Friday, August 6, the festival will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. with Our Gang performing on the main stage from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

At 6:00 p.m., the adjacent John Humphrey Complex will host Guns 'n Hoses 2010, the annual sixteen inch softball game. Firefighters from the Orland Fire Protection District will defend their 2009 win over members of the Orland Park Police Department, with both agencies vying for the coveted traveling trophy.

Yard Fulla Cars, a Chicago area country band, will perform from 8:30 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Free country line dancing instruction is offered inside of the Civic Center from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Community stage features for Friday include the village's dance program performing at 5:30 p.m., followed by Live Band Karanke at 8:00 p.m.

Live Band Karaoke, the opportunity to sing with a live band for free, will be held Friday evening from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

On Saturday, August 7, the Taste will be held from 1:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. The Orland Park Kiwanis Club will host a raffle game inside of the Civic Center when Rhythm Rockets takes the main stage at 1:00 p.m. Complete schedules are available on the Village of Orland Park 's website at www.orland-park.il.us/taste or 708403-6140.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 15 | August 3, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Washing for Charity

South West Special Recreation Association (SWSRA) and Alsip Park District washed cars on Friday, July 16, at Alsip's Hazelgreen School in order to raise proceeds for each organization's summer day camps. This is just one of the many outings SWSRA day campers get to enjoy.

SWSRA is a non-profit organization that provides year-round recreational services for individuals with special needs. For more information on SWSRA services or to be added to SWSRA's brochure mailing list, contact the SWSRA office at 708-389-9423.

Masters Cup annual golf outing

Dianne Masters Cup Crisis Center of South Suburbia's Annual Golf Outing & Dinner to be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at Silver Lake CC.

Join us for a day filled with fun starting with a shot gun start at 9 am on the North Course. Ticket price of $150 includes a continental breakfast, cook out lunch, refreshments, contest holes, and a cook out dinner. Don't golf come on out and enjoy the dinner for only $50.

We have several different levels of sponsorships available for you to promote your business; how about a hole sponsorship for $150 or better yet two hole sponsorships for $200.

For further information or to purchase tickets, contact Janice at jlaging@crisisctr.org or at 708-429-7255, ext. 126. Or view our website at: www.crisisctr.org.

Help us go GREEN and register on-line! All proceeds benefit the Crisis Center for South Suburbia a nonprofit community organization that provides emergency shelter and other essential services for individuals and families victimized by domestic violence.

Palos Park Library holds a party

Join us for the Summer Reading Grande Finale with Dave Rudolf's Beach Party at the Palos Park Public Library on Thursday, August 12th, at 6:30pm. Celebrate the close of the Summer Reading Program and join award winning entertainer Dave Rudoff with his fun-in-the-sun interactive musical program.

Come for the limbo and Conga line and stay for the refreshments and the Summer Reading prizes. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park, IL.

To register for this event contact the library at (708)448-1530 or visit us www.palosparklibrary.org.

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Pictured: Marty Sullivan, Katie Ruebe, and Friend.

Sertoma Centre, the Animal Welfare League and Black Dog K-9 Collaborate on a Dog Training Opportunity

They say you can't teach an old dog new tricks, perhaps they never attended the new dog training program offered at Sertoma Centre, Inc. in Alsip, IL. Through the collaboration of the great folks at the Animal Welfare League of Chicago Ridge and Black Dog K-9 Performance, Sertoma Centre, is now able to offer an exciting new opportunity for individuals with disabilities. This hands-on dog training program was created for individuals who have a "heart for animals" and an interest in learning how to train dogs.

This new skill may afford them an opportunity to volunteer or obtain employment in the community. Being instrumental in the successful training of the dogs, provides individuals the satisfaction of having made a positive contribution as well as the ability to train and care for pets.

The training sessions are provided free to the individuals with disabilities. "We were able to accomplish this through the committed efforts of Linda Estrada, Director of the Animal Welfare League and Terri Sparks, Marketing & PR Manager for the organization, they made it happen" states Michele Arthur, Associate Director of Program Services at Sertoma Centre. Also part of the "make it happen" team is Marty Sullivan and his wife and business partner, Heide. They have been extremely dedicated to the success of the program. Marty, owner of Black Dog K-9, and certified dog trainer has graciously donated his time, talents and energy to provide the training know-how for this program.

He uses positive reinforcement. According to Marty; "Dogs are similar to people in that each one has a different personality and they all learn at a different pace."

The socialization and basic obedience the dogs receive in the program increases their chances of being adopted. Three of the dogs that participated in the first training session and five from the second session have already been adopted. This experience has had an amazing impact on the trainers as they realize the positive effect their contribution made in the training process. The current series finished on Thursday, July 29th; however there are plans to repeat the program in the near future.

The dogs have been provided by the Animal Welfare League. Prior to being integrated into the program, Crystal Ludington, Offsite Coordinator, monitors each dog to be sure that dog has the correct personality for training.

If you have a pet in need of training contact: Marty Sullivan, Owner/Trainer of Black Dog K-9 Performance located at 11730 S. Lawndale, Alsip, IL 60803, by phone: 708-371-4926 and 708-305-1322, or email: BlackDogCanine@aol.com.

If you would like to adopt a pet please contact the Animal Welfare League located at 10305 Southwest Highway, Chicago Ridge, IL 60415.

Phone: 708-636-8586 or visit their website www.animalwelfareleague.com.

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 15 | August 3, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

New assessment system K-5 writing program approved for School District 130

Exciting new additions are being implemented into School District 130's curriculum for the 2010-2011 school year. The Northwest Evaluation Association/ Measures of Academic Progress (NWEA/MAP) Assessment System, along with additional technology required to support the online assessments, was approved by the Board of Education. This system replaces the existing assessment system for grades K-8 that was not aligned to state standards nor beneficial to teachers in terms of gathering usable data in a timely fashion. The NWEA has the unique ability to measure a student's achievement and academic growth over the course of a school year, as well as over several years if the child remains in District 130. Students will be assessed three times a year and they do not have to complete the test in one sitting. Test results are immediately available to the teacher following the completion of the test online and the data provided to teachers and administrators precisely determines which concepts a student has mastered and the areas for academic growth.

In addition to a new assessment system, the Board also approved the purchase of the *Being a Writer* program for grades K-5 which uses a workshop model and has a clear scope and sequence. This new yearlong curriculum will teach students the cycle of prewriting, drafting, revising, proofreading, and publishing. Students would also learn about personal narrative, fiction, expository nonfiction, functional nonfiction, persuasive writing and poetry. Research to find a writing program suitable for grades 6-8 is currently underway.

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip, Blue Island , Crestwood and Robbins.

Manufacturers Concerned with Slowdown in Economic Recovery

The latest economic report on gross domestic product (GDP) shows that the pace of our nation's recovery has slowed to 2.4 percent from 3.7 percent in the first quarter. The slowdown is further evidence of the fragile state of the economy and the urgent need for policies that encourage job creation and competitiveness. The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) today reiterated its call for Congress, candidates for office and opinion leaders to support and publicly endorse the NAM's comprehensive Manufacturing Strategy.

Factors that contributed to the second-quarter slowdown included very modest growth in consumer spending and less support from inventories. The report also showed a surge in imports, highlighting the fierce competition that U.S. manufacturers face in selling products overseas and in our domestic market.

"We think this country needs a battle plan, which is why we released our comprehensive 'Manufacturing Strategy for Jobs and a Competitive America'. There is a great deal of uncertainty in today's business environment from tax, trade and energy policy to health care reform and new regulations and this uncertainty is hurting manufacturers' ability to create jobs," said NAM President and CEO John Engler. "The manufacturing sector has led the recovery to date and is crucial in our continued economic security and prosperity. To compete, we need to move forward with the comprehensive approach outlined in our Manufacturing Strategy. We can not afford new burdens and added cost."

For the complete Manufacturing Strategy, please visit www.nam.org.

National night out

The Blue Island Police Dept. invites you to join them for raffles, food, prizes, jump tent for kids, DJ, Elvis and tours of their facility. When: Tuesday, August 3, 6 - 9 p.m., 708-396-7004 Where: Blue Island Police Department, 13031 S. Greenwood Ave. (New & Greenwood).

Congressman introduces bill to help federal budget

As Congress awaits a recommendation on whether to cut Saturday mail delivery, a new report by the Economic Policy Institute shows that the U.S. Postal Service would be in good financial health were it not for a massive overpayment into the federal retirement fund and an overly aggressive congressional requirement to prefund its retiree health benefits. In recognition of this unfair mandate, Representative Lynch (D-MA) introduced H.R. 5746 last week, a bill to reevaluate how the USPS contributes to their retirement plans and create a more sustainable and realistic funding mechanism.

"The findings in the Economic Policy Institute's report support our organization's long-standing assertion that cutting Saturday mail delivery is the wrong way to go," said the National Association of Letter Carriers President, Fredric Rolando. "A decision to end Saturday mail service would cut less than 2% of costs while eliminating 17% of daily deliveries, driving away postal customers with slower service. Instead of making such a brash and counter-productive move, Congress should support Representative Lynch's proposal, which would restore the USPS's finances by properly aligning the organization's overall retirement funding requirements, save tens of thousands of letter carrier jobs and maintain a vital and viable service for the American people. The EPI report strongly makes the case for the Lynch proposal. The EPI report strongly makes the case for the Lynch proposal."

Physical by Metrosouth Medical Center Family Doctor saves South Holland Man's Life

During the last year, South Holland resident Sue Dinkel lost a brother-in-law to a heart attack and watched her own brother's recuperation after a stroke. So when her husband, Charlie, said he had dizziness and heart "fluttering," she didn't want him to take any chances.

"It took a series of family health problems and a nagging wife for him to get help," she admits. "But we thank God he did. A very thorough family medicine doctor immediately knew there was a problem."

That doctor is Barbara Bellar, M.D., who practices out of MetroSouth Health Center at Blue Island. Recognizing it was heart-related, Dr. Bellar sent him to a cardiologist for further testing.

"Charlie is a carpenter," says Sue. "Dr. Bellar explained how the heart works using analogies and making comparisons that were familiar to Charlie. She discussed the structural, electrical and plumbing functions of the heart."

"He didn't have the typical signs of a heart attack," says Dr. Bellar. "His cholesterol and blood pressure were normal but the irregular heart beat was clearly a tell-tale sign of a problem."

The problem was an 80 percent blockage in a heart vessel. This condition is sometimes called a "widow maker" because most men don't get to the doctor until it is too late. It took several tests, including a stress test, ultrasound of the heart and an angiogram to figure out the issue. During the angiogram, MetroSouth Medical Center interventional cardiologist, Dr. Robert Iaffaldano, immediately diagnosed the condition.

Tune-Up Time For Dads

This month, MetroSouth Medical Center is offering a special "Tune-Up Time for Dads" campaign to encourage men to see a family doctor and get a physical so that like Charlie, life-threatening medical conditions can be diagnosed and treated.

Presently, only 57 percent of all men get a physical, compared to 74 percent of women. Also, men are more likely to be hospitalized for preventable conditions such as congestive heart failure and diabetes compliations.

As an incentive for men visit the doctor, MetroSouth Medical Center is offering a complimentary family gift for every man who gets a tune-up between now and Labor Day.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 708-489-7925 or www.MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com

Village View

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 4 | August 17, 2010

Oak Lawn, Burbank, Hickory Hills, Evergreen Park

Lipinski Says Surging Trade Deficit Offers

Further Proof America Must Get Tough with China

Congressman Lipinski released the following statement regarding the news that America's monthly trade deficit rose to its highest level in nearly two years:

"The spike in America's trade deficit to nearly $50 billion in June is a reminder that we must do much, much more to support U.S. manufacturers as they seek to compete against China and other countries that refuse to play by the rules. What we saw was bad news on both fronts, as American exports fell and imports rose. We cannot allow this trend to continue. These latest figures prove yet again that we need to get tough with China over its manipulation of the value of its currency. While China recently announced it would shift to a more flexible exchange rate, the reality is that the renminbi has barely budged since then. Economists agree it's still enormously undervalued, making Chinese goods far cheaper than they would be if the playing field were level. I firmly believe American manufacturers are the best and most innovative in the world, but the fact is they're fighting with one hand tied behind their backs, through no fault of their own. It's high time we imposed duties under U.S. law against illegally subsidized Chinese goods to defend American jobs.

"There are some who will maintain that what we're seeing is inevitable, or even 'progress,' and that our economy can continue to thrive by designing and developing the goods that people want, and letting other countries produce them. But look at where that logic has gotten us – we've lost one-third of all manufacturing jobs in a decade, and the service and retail jobs those workers are left with don't pay as well or offer the same benefits as the positions they lost.

"As the Wall Street Journal pointed out, part of the reason for the increase in the trade deficit last month was increased demand for foreign made computer products – including products such as the iPad. I find that incredibly frustrating. American innovation should be creating jobs right here at home, not overseas. Of course, business is business, and companies will do what is most profitable, as they should. But if foreign manufacturers are stealing market share from their U.S competitors, it is not because they are inherently better equipped to compete. Their advantage often stems from coordinated and focused government policymaking that far exceeds anything America is doing.

"Fortunately, there are signs Washington is finally starting to wake up to the harsh reality our manufacturers have long faced. My bipartisan National Manufacturing Strategy Act, H.R. 4692, recently passed the House, and that's a good start. It's critical that we bring together the public and the private sector to develop a national plan for revitalizing manufacturing capable of earning broad support. At the same time, we need to immediately crack down on China and any other country that engages in unfair trade practices. Every day we fail to take action is another day American workers suffer."

Evergreen Park News

On Wednesday the 18th., Village of Evergreen Park will be holding a special meeting to present a proposed settlement with the Sisters of Mercy. The meeting will commence at 6:30 pm at EP High School, 9901 S. Kedzie. The Village encourages all who are interested to attend the meeting.

Thursday on the 19th. Farmers Market continues at Yukich Field, 89th & Kedzie Ave. from 7am - 1pm.

Garden Club of Evergreen Park will hold its Inangural meeting at 6:30pm at the EP Library Call 708-423 8768 for more info.

Support the library and treat yourself at Oberweiss fundraising night Download your coupon at evergreenparklibrary.org

Visit the Evergreen Park website at evergreenpark-ill.com and click on Recycling Blue Bag Program to download an updated instruction list regarding Blue Bag recycling.

The Fall Tree Program is underway. The program allows residents to choose from a great variety of trees at a low cost. Planting will be done by Don's Landscaping. Cost includes planting, mulch, root hormone, and a one year, one time, 100% free replacement guarantee. Pick up the latest brochure at Village Hall or download it at the village web site at evergreenpark-ill.com

School begins for District 124 Students

Children attending Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124 will begin the 2010-2011 school year on Thursday, August 26th. On August 26th and 27th students in Kindergarten through Grade 8, will begin school at 8:30 a.m. and will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. August 26th will be the first day for the Before School Program. The first day for Early Childhood, Pre-kindergarten and the After School Program will be August 30th. New Student/Kindergarten registration, will take place on August 11, 2010 from 1:00-3:30 p.m. and 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room at Central Junior High School. Please bring your child's original birth certificate with county seal, social security number, and a 'student in good standing form' from your child's previous school. Additionally, you will need one of the following: current mortgage papers, current homeowner's insurance policy or apartment lease listing all tenants, receipt from last month's payment and a certificate of inspection. If your area code does not match the Evergreen Park 708 area code, the phone bill must be provided showing your address. Additionally, residency Illinois photo ID card, and two additional proofs of residency from the list below must be presented at registration. Returning students, will be continuing the residency verification process and fee payment days on the dates listed below.

All families will be required to bring back the completed emergency form, current lease and two forms of proof of residency, one item from each group: a current gas, electric, credit card, cable, water, or phone bill, and a bank statement, mortgage statement, pay check stub (with address) or medicard statement dated the month of July. Payment of school fees or arrangements to pay fees will take place at registration.

Please note that fees will not be accepted by mail. School information may be picked up in all schools on Thursday, August 19, 2010 from 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Your child's information will not be made available to you without residency confirmation and a receipt of school fees paid the school.

Brady statement on new State pay hikes under Quinn

Republican gubernatorial candidate Bill Brady today released the following statement after a shocking news account last night revealed Governor Pat Quinn doled out hundreds more pay raises for nonunion state employees than previously reported for the first six months of 2010:

"During the worst fiscal crisis in history, Pat Quinn has proven time and again to be just another political insider who acts solely to protect and expand big government at taxpayer expense," said Brady.

"Doling out hundreds of state pay raises – as high as $40,000 – while families suffer under massive unemployment, and vital service providers are forced to shut their doors and deny necessary services is the height of irresponsibility and mismanagement."

"This revelation underscores what voters already know - we will never clean up the mess in state government with Pat Quinn as Governor."

Also today, Brady for Illinois released the following online video, called "No Way."

Click here to watch: http://www.youtube.com/user/bradyforillinois#p/u/0/ThaBoWzsOI4

Brady (R-Bloomington) is a small business owner who has represented his community as state Senator since 2002. He is running for governor to bring a clean break to Illinois and build a job-growing environment. More information can be found at bradyforillinois.com.

Toy Box Connection
1st Annual Outing
sponsored by
MARQUETTE BANK
will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at Silver Lake Country Club.
Organize a foursome, bring a toy, & join the fun-all benefiting the Toy Box Connection.
www.toyboxconnection.com
or for more details, contact Joyce Latkowski.
Marquette Bank
(708) 364-9024
latkowski@marquettebank.com

St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church in Worth has a unique way of explaining gospel readings

by Annette Dixon

" About 2 months ago, we passed the offering plates on Sunday morning, but this time we invited people to take money out," says Pastor Jay Trygstad.

"I told the story in the Gospels about how a master entrusted each of three servants with a portion of his money. When he came back, two of the servants had used his money to make more money. One of them had buried it in the ground. When the master returned, he commended the first two, and chided the last servant for his poor investment of the master's money.

I emphasized in the sermon the concept of Christian stewardship. That is, the idea that God is the owner of all we have, and we are just stewards, caretakers, or custodians of God's money. When it came time to pass the plate, 100 people took out $50 each. I reminded them that this is not their money, this is God's money, and invited them to invest it in the Kingdom of God. I gave some examples of things they could do, but I gave them complete freedom to spend it however they wanted, so long as it was an investment in the kingdom of God, whatever they understood that to mean," continued Pastor Jay.

"Since that time we have heard from a number of people who have invested the $50. Some gave it to charities where they could get matching funds from their company. Two little girls set up an M and M machine in the narthex of our church, and they are giving the profits back to the church. Some made things, like crosses, or homemade cards, or baked goods, and sold them. One lady used her money to start a fund at work to help a family that is in dire straights. Following her lead, other people at the company have kicked in quite generously. One lady gave her money to a man collecting money for charity on the corner.

There are so many more interesting stories. On the last Sunday in August, we are inviting people to share what they did. The public is invited. Our worship is at 8, 9:30, and 10:45, which ever is more convenient for you. 8:00 is traditional, and the others are more contemporary in style," says the Pastor.

St. Mark Lutheran Church is located near the corner of 111th St. and SW Hwy, and has been a part of the Worth community for 55 years. They are a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Their visions state compelling that people are drawn in and transformed, so that they can go and change the world." We operate under five principles: 1. Jesus is Lord 2. Everyone (and we mean everyone) is welcome 3. Love changes people 4. Everyone has something to offer, and 5 Our world needs what we have. We offer a number of different services and ministries at St. Mark Importantly they are a PADS (public action to deliver shelter) site for six years. A place where homeless people can get a warm meal, a safe place to sleep and breakfast and lunch for the next day. Two Alcoholics Anonymous groups meet at the church hall.

Home for the St. Mark Rockers (seniors group) they contribute both non perishable food items and fresh vegetables from their garden to the Worth food pantry.

Multiple Bible study classes, confirmation and Sunday School Classes, Vacation Bible School, a class on aerobics, a support group for parents of teenagers, the Dave Ramsey course on personal finances, and Dinner for 8, new friends across the dinner table are open to the public.

"We believe St. Mark is a loving congregation where guests will find genuine acceptance and a warm welcome", says Pastor Jay

If you need to contact me, my phone number is 708 873 9236

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
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vvnew@sbcglobal.net

Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Illinois Chamber of Commerce endorses Brady

Chamber, NFIB Endorsements Show Brady will be Jobs Governor

Chicago – Republican Gubernatorial candidate Bill Brady today said today's Illinois Chamber of Commerce endorsement, and his endorsement Monday by the National Federation of Independent Businesses demonstrates his commitment to fighting job killing taxes, and to enacting pro growth policies that create jobs for families across Illinois.

"As a small business owner, I'm proud to stand with job creators and with families to get Illinois working again," Brady said. "We're losing generations to other states because job creators and entrepreneurs don't feel state government cares about them."

"Under Pat Quinn, state government changes the rules, hikes taxes and fees, and adds more red tape - all to feed a bloated, big government bureaucracy that's just not working for the people of Illinois, Brady said"

"It is time for someone to occupy the Governor's office who understands the struggles small businesses go through each day, just to make the next payroll."

There's not one area of state government budgeting that cannot be deconstructed and reconstructed to save money, Brady stated

He has proposed a $2,100 tax credit to businesses for every new job they create. The average job brings in $1,200 in revenue to the state

"I support reducing the overall cost of doing business in Illinois, including eliminating excessive taxes and fees on business, restructuring an expensive workers compensation system compared to other states, and reforming the state's medical malpractice and legal liability laws," Brady said

He also said he will implement a drill down audit to reexamine and reassess state government spending across the board

Brady (R-Bloomington) is a small business owner who has represented his community as state Senator since 2002. He is running for governor to bring a clean break to Illinois and build a job-growing environment. For more information you can find at , on bradyforillinois.com.

FOB President Mark Donohue

Letter to the Editor

The subject of manning levels in the Chicago Police Department has been an issue that has received greater attention lately due in part to the recent rash of violence in some communities that has also included the murders of three Chicago Police Officers.

It is unfortunate that when these tragic events happen, it is only then that some law makers begin to listen. The Chicago Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 7 has been addressing this issue in many ways for several years. We have brought it up at contract negotiations the last two cycles only to have the City dismiss discussion outright because of an arbitrary rule in the Illinois Labor Act which fails to mandate that the City discuss this issue with their Law Enforcement employees.

The Lodge attempted to discuss the issue due to the grave concerns we have had for the safety of the officers working for the department particularly those assigned to District Law Enforcement. We have been attempting to amend the Public Labor Act in Springfield to force the City to discuss the problems we feel they have with the deployment of their manpower resources.

That effort has received the City's top priority status in attempting to keep it from passage. So important is it for them that one City representative has vowed that the City will "fight to the death" to keep the FOP from amending the Act.

This type of attitude really flies in the face of what can be done in "meaningful negotiations" with the City of Chicago and their level of concern for "officer safety."

Our objective is nothing more than having the department properly man the beat cars in the 25 districts throughout the City.

The department dictates how many personnel are required to properly do so based on crime conditions in a given geographic area. Simply put, they set the numbers and the FOP would like to see them retain those numbers for the safety of the officers and the members in those communities.

In most districts throughout the year particularly on the afternoon watch, the police keep busy for their entire tour going from call to call with little or no time to do any real proactive police work.

There is no time for them to address situations that they may see and be able to do something about before a crime is committed. There is no time to confront the gang bangers they may come across hanging out in your areas due to the backlog of calls for service because of the manpower shortages.

We have recently heard from the department that crime is down throughout the City but that is not the case when the crime is committed against Police Officers.

The Police Department Research and Development Division publishes quarterly Officer Battery reports. Those reports show that batteries on the Police are up 20% over the levels of just three years ago.

Their figures show that on any given day about 10 Chicago Police Officers are going to be battered while carrying out their duties.

The manning issue goes hand in hand with their ability to protect you and themselves and this is why it is important for the City Council to get involved in these discussions to help protect the Citizens and the Police Officers in this Great City.

Mark P. Donahue, President

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Free Family Gift Offered When Dad Goes to the Doctor

MetroSouth Medical Center is offering a special "Time Up Time for Dads" program which encourages men to see a family doctor for a physical so that life-threatening medical conditions can be diagnosed early and treated. This includes a complimentary family gift when Dad or the man of the house makes an appointment for a tune up between now and September 30.

In addition, all men visiting a MetroSouth family medicine physician will receive a complimentary screening checklist and folder to organize their medical histories and files. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 708-489-7925 or visit www.MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com.

Presently, only 57 percent of all men get physicals, compared to 74 percent of women. Also, men are more likely to be hospitalized for preventable conditions such as congestive heart failure and diabetes complications. This comes at the same time when the federal government is partnering with the Ad Council in launching a similar campaign nationwide. TV and print commercials can be seen throughout the country urging men to visit the doctor.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has identified these thought-worthy statistics about men over 40 and preventative medical care:

·Men are 24 percent less likely than women to have visited a doctor within the past year and are 22 percent more likely to have neglected their cholesterol tests.

·Men are 28 percent more likely than women to be hospitalized for congestive heart failure.

·Men are 32 percent more likely than women to be hospitalized for long-term complications of diabetes and are more than twice as likely than women to have a leg or foot amputated due to complications related to diabetes.

·Men are 24 percent more likely than women to be hospitalized for pneumonia that could have been prevented by getting an immunization.

Screening tests, such as the ones MetroSouth Family physicians provide, can find diseases early when they are easier to treat. Health experts from the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force have made recommendations about testing for the following conditions:

·Obesity
·High Cholesterol
·High Blood Pressure
·Colorectal Cancer
·Prostate Cancer
·Aortic Aneurysm
·Diabetes
·Depression
·Sexually Transmitted Infections
·HIV

About MetroSouth

MetroSouth Medical Center is a full-service medical facility with physicians in 45 medical specialties. MetroSouth is located in historic Blue Island, Ill., approximately 16 miles south of downtown Chicago.

The hospital's family medicine physicians have comprehensive skills that enable them to care for patients through every stage of life.

For more information on making an appointment, call 708-489-7925. Also, find more by visiting: www.healthconnect.MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com.

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Smith Village offers a seminar about dementia

Smith Village is offering a free memory support meeting and will answer everything you wanted to know about dealing with dementia.

The hour of the session will start at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 24. Area residents and the families of people who may have Alzheimer's disease or are showing early signs of the disorder are invited to attend a free program at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 24, at Smith Village, a continuing care retirement community at 2320 W. 113th Place.

Diane Morgan, the dementia care coordinator who leads the support groups at Smith Village, will facilitate an open forum focused on questions and answers about dementia.

The 60-minute meeting, designed for the adult children of seniors with memory loss challenges is free and light refreshments will be served.

Please call 773-474-7300 to reserve a seat.

Park Lawn has a raffle for fundraising

Park Lawn and Seguin Services "Building Bridges to the Future" Classic Car Raffle to win a fully restored 1965 Mustang Convertible.

They're sharing resources to benefit thousands of students with special needs to transition successfully into adulthood.

Park Lawn and Seguin Services are registered 501 (c)(3) charitable organizations. The cost will be $50 per ticket and the Drawing will be September 15, at 6:30 pm at Seguin Gardens and Gifts, 5621 W. 31st Street.

The winner need not be present. For tickets call Park Lawn at 708-425-6867 or visit www.parklawn.com. For information, contact Nancy Schmitz at 708-425-6867.

Affordable Care Act Offers Prescription Drug Cost Relief to 27,383 Medicare Beneficiaries in Illinois

New Law Offers One-Time, $250 Rebate Checks for Eligible Medicare Beneficiaries in the Medicare Part D Donut Hole

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced that the third round of one-time, tax-free $250 rebate checks have been mailed to eligible Medicare beneficiaries whose drug costs are so high they have reached the Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage gap known as the "donut hole." Experts estimate that more than a quarter of Part D enrollees hit the donut hole and often stop following their drug regimen as a result of the added cost burden. The $250 rebates will go a long way in preventing seniors from having to make such difficult and almost certainly harmful health decisions. In Illinois, 27,383 seniors and persons with disabilities who rely on Medicare for access to health care have received new help with their prescription drug costs to date, thanks to the Affordable Care Act. Across the country, more than 750,000 Medicare beneficiaries have already received checks this year, and more beneficiaries will be receiving checks in the coming months as they enter the coverage gap.

"High prescription drugs costs are a problem for many seniors and other Medicare enrollees with limited incomes," said Secretary Sebelius. "These checks are an important first step in helping them afford the medications they need and are evidence of how Americans are already seeing the very real benefits of the Affordable Care Act. From strengthening the long-term future of Medicare as evidenced by the recent Medicare Trustees report, to saving seniors and the disabled money on everything from prescription drug costs to preventive services, the Affordable Care Act is helping to preserve and protect Medicare."

The rebate checks will partly close the donut hole this year, with the $250 one-time checks for beneficiaries who enter the gap.

In 2011, the Affordable Care Act takes an additional step for Medicare beneficiaries in the donut hole by providing them with a 50 percent discount on their brand name medications.

Every year from 2011 to 2020, the Affordable Care Act will take progressive steps to close the donut hole.

In addition to savings on prescription drugs, the new law takes a series of steps to strengthen Medicare. Under the Affordable Care Act:

·Medicare beneficiaries will receive free preventive care services like mammogram and certain colon cancer tests and a free annual physical starting in 2011;

·By 2018, seniors can expect to save on average almost $200 per year in premiums compared to what they would have paid without the new law, and most beneficiaries will also see a significant reduction in their Medicare coinsurance as a result of the Affordable Care Act; and

·The life of the Medicare Trust Fund is extended by 12 years.

"These checks represent just one way that Medicare is going to work better for seniors and persons with disabilities under the Affordable Care Act," said Don Berwick, administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

"Seniors will see lower prescription drug costs when they are in the donut hole, preventive services and annual wellness visits without cost-sharing, and higher quality care. And our efforts to crack down on fraud and waste are making beneficiaries safer and Medicare stronger financially, adding years to the Medicare trust funds."

"Often, seniors reach the donut hole because they are on costly medications to help them manage chronic conditions such as high blood pressure or diabetes," said Kathy Greenlee, assistant secretary for aging.

"These checks will help America's seniors afford the meditations they need to manage those illnesses, keeping them healthy and improving their quality of life."

Medicare beneficiaries who do not already receive Medicare's Extra Help receive these checks automatically in the mail when they reach the donut hole; there is no requirement to sign up. Seniors should never give out personal information to anyone who is not a trusted source.

Seniors are encouraged to contact 1-800-MEDICARE to report any solicitations of personal information, or visit www.stopmedicarefraud.gov to learn about how the Affordable Care Act helps to protect seniors from scams and safeguard taxpayer dollars.

Advertise in our Community Outreach page in all of our future Issues!
312-624-8996

Ride & Fundraiser to Benefit National Autism Association of Northwest Indiana's Helping Hand Grant Program

The first annual National Autism Association of Northwest Indiana (NAA-NWI) ride and fundraiser will be held Saturday, August 28, 2010 from noon to 8 pm.

Proceeds from this event will benefit The Helping Hand Grant Program which provides families with financial assistance in getting necessary biomedical treatments, supplements and therapy services for their child with autism. Priority is given to single parents. Since 2009 NAA-NWI has given over $7,000 in grants to local families.

This event will take place in two phases; the first a motorcycle run from noon until 4 pm leaving from the White Rhino Bar & Grill. The fundraiser follows from 4 to 8 pm at FUNFLATABLES indoor play center and White Rhino Bar & Grill. They are located next door to each other at 101 East Joliet Street, Dyer, IN. Families and children are encouraged to attend the fundraiser.

"Autism rates have risen dramatically over the past three decades, now affecting one in 110 children in the US," said Lisa Fox, President of the NAA-NWI. "Despite this staggering number, autism remains the most underfunded disorder among our nation's children."

"Autism is a national health emergency placing unimaginable burdens on families. The Helping Hand Grant Program offers a way to expand the National Autism Association programs to directly benefit families dealing with autism from Northwest Indiana , specifically Lake and Porter counties," said Liane Adduci, coordinator of the event. "This event will help spread the word about Autism and where to go for help in Northwest Indiana if you suspect or have a child with Autism."

The fundraiser will feature playrooms for families and their children at FUNFLATABLES from 4 to 6 pm as well as food and entertainment at White Rhino Bar and Grill. Local Northwest Indiana musical artist, Greg Ashby and friends will perform from 4 to 8 pm. There will also be a 50/50 cash raffle.

Tickets for the bike run and fundraiser are $20 per rider or $30 per couple (ride, food and fundraiser). Registration is from 10:00 am to noon at White Rhino Bar & Grill, 101 East Joliet Street, Dyer, IN. First bike out at 11:30 am, first bike in at 4 pm.

The fundraiser follows shortly after the ride from 4 to 8 pm. Tickets for the fundraiser is $15.00 per person or $25.00 per couple. Children 15 and under are free.

About the National Autism Association and the NAA of Northwest Indiana

The National Autism Association advocates for the most relevant scientific research, legislation for access to medical care, coverage for medical and safety devices, services and support over the life span and protection from abuse towards individuals with autism.

About the Helping Hand Program

Autism is treatable. The Helping Hand Program provides families with financial assistance in getting necessary biomedical treatments, supplements and therapy services for their child with autism. For more information about the Helping Hand Grant Program go to http://northwestindianaautism.com/helping-hand/

For ticket information, contact Liane Adduci at lianemadduci@comcast.net or at 219-227-8334 or Lisa Fox at lisa@northwestindianaautism.com.

Spiffy things to do around Blue Island

Close Encounters of the SAM Kind

Guest speaker, Sam Maranto, is Illinois State Director of the Mutual UFO Network, a certified UFO Field Investigator and the Illinois Representative on the "Disclosure Project." He has investigated the mass Illinois sightings in Tinley Park, Rockford and the November, 2006 O'Hare Airport UFO Incident. Sam has also been a guest on the History Channel's "UFO Hunters," Coast to Coast AM with George Noorey and NBC News Dateline.

When: Tuesday, August 17, 7:00 p.m.

Where: Blue Island Public Library, 2433 York St., 708-388-1078

Movie in the Pavilion

Join us for our last summer movie night with the critically acclaimed Pixar film "UP." Bring the family and enjoy this FREE event. Concession stand will be open. Come out and enjoy a Green River soda.

When: Thursday, August 19, 9:00 p.m.. FREE

Where: Memorial Park Upper Pavilion, 12804 S. Highland Ave., Blue Islands, IL

Employers needed for Moraine Valley Job and Internship Fair

Employers from all industries who have position openings are needed for Moraine Valley Community College's Fall Job and Internship Fair on Thursday, September 30, from 2 to 5 p.m. The fair will be in the Moraine Business and Conference Center, Building M, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Employer check-in is at noon, and the employer luncheon is at 12:30 p.m.

The Job and Internship Fair is a prime opportunity for employers to recruit students, graduates, and community members to fulfill employment needs, including hourly or salary jobs and paid or non-paid internships. Commission-only positions and undisclosed third-party recruiting will not be included.

The registration fee is $100 for a six-foot table and lunch for two recruiters. Employers can save by registering for the fall and spring job fairs for $150. The deadline to register is Friday, September 17. Registration forms can be downloaded from the college's website at morainevalley.edu/jre. Space is limited.

For more information about the fair, call the Job Resource Center at (708) 974-5737, or visit the website.

For news media inquiries, call Jessica Crotty, College and Community Relations coordinator, at (708) 974-5281, or e-mail her at crotty@moraineval-ley.edu.

KIDS COUNT Data Center has child poverty rates and more!

While the national child poverty rate has hovered steady around 18 percent, the child poverty rate in Illinois reached almost 17 percent in 2008 and has been on the increase. Prior to the recession, 20 percent of children age 6 and younger were living below the poverty level in Illinois - the highest poverty rate among any age group. Counties in the southern region have a higher child poverty rate than other parts of the state - with Alexander County having the highest at almost 44 percent.

The Illinois profile on the KIDS COUNT Data Center not only features child poverty rates in Illinois and its counties, but it also has nearly 50 other indicators on children's well-being - categorized by the following four areas:

Education - including enrollment in state-supported Pre-K programs, elementary and secondary school revenues, and county-level dropout rates

Economic Well-Being - including county-level unemployment rates, food stamp recipients, and federal EITC claims

Health - including children without health insurance, county-level low birthweight babies and infant mortality rates

Safety and Risky Behaviors - including indicated cases of child abuse or neglect

The KIDS COUNT Data Center provides both Illinois and National KIDS COUNT indicators that measure the well-being of children. Its intent is to raise awareness of children's issues and help policy-makers and advocates make informed decisions to provide a better future for our state's children.

We encourage you to utilize the interactive online database where you can search for hundreds of indicators. For more information and how to access Illinois' profile, compare data nationally and across states, and customize your own data (including tables, graphs, and maps), please visit voices4kids.org/library/KC_datacenter.html

Concert on the Midlothian Village Green

Join family, neighbors and friends for a summer evening of music on Saturday, August 28, 2010, when Forestview Express performs from 7:30 PM until 10 PM on the Village Green, located at 147th and Waverly (2 blocks east of Pulaski). Bring your favorite lawn chairs or blanket and enjoy the bluegrass music. Midlothian vendors will be selling food and beverages or bring a picnic basket. The Community Service Committee will be hosting a bake sale. Free parking is available in the Metra lot. This event is sponsored by Comcast. For further information, please call 708-389-0200.

The Bridge Teen Center

On Thursday, August 26th at 7:00 PM, The Bridge Teen Center will host Panel for Parents:Students and Stress, a free event exclusively for parents of teens. As the school year kicks off, a student's schedule of classes, sports, co-curricular activities, and homework leaves little time for friends and family, let alone sleep. Through a panel of experts, discover how to recognize the signs of stress in students (physician), outlets and expressing stress in healthy ways (counselor), and prioritize activities and time based on values and future dreams (college admissions). Question and answer time to follow; free take-home material on students and stress included.

Panelists will include Dr. Robert Hoff, D.O., Family Practitioner in Orland Park; Doreen Zaborac, M.A., L.C.P.C., NCC Director, Tinley Park; Jeremy Klyn, Director of Admissions, Trinity Christian College

Parents are encouraged to sign-up online at www.thebridgeteencenter.org, or by calling 708.466.8080. This event will take place at The Bridge Teen Center, 15555 S. 71st Court in Orland Park.

MUSICHORALE'S 64TH YEAR OF SINGING CHORAL MUSIC OF ALL KINDS

Come sing and sway the time away at Musichorale today!

First rehearsal is Tuesday, September 7, 2010 at 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Age 16 and older are welcome to join us.

Meeting Place:
Oak Lawn Community Church meeting hall
9000 S. Ridgeland Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Check out our website:
www.musichorale.org for more information.

Musichorale is a not for profit community choral group

Classes set at Moraine Valley's new Tinley Park campus

Looking for a shorter commute for classes at Moraine Valley Community College? Look no further. The college will offer 20 classes beginning October 11 at its new Southwest Education Center (SWEC), 17900 S. 94th Ave. in Tinley Park.

All 20 classes are during the weekday and are 10 weeks long. Classes include Composition I and II, Principles of Macro-economics, American History I, Art Appreciation, Medical Terminology, College Algebra, World Religions, Nutrition for Today, General Sociology, General Education Mathematics, and Spanish I.

A complete listing of all the classes at SWEC and credit and noncredit classes offered at all Moraine Valley campuses can be found in the fall 2010 class schedule at morainevalley.edu.

Registration is ongoing. Tuition is $95 per credit hour plus fees and books. Students who have applied to the college can register in the Registration Office, located on campus in the Student Services Center (Building S), 9000 W. College Pkwy. in Palos Hills; by phone at (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-5556); or morainevalley.edu.

First Annual Golf Outing for Toy Box Connection

Toy Box Connection 1st Annual Golf Outing (sponsored by MARQUETTE BANK) will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at Silver Lake Country Club. Organize a foursome, bring a toy, & join the fun-all benefiting the Toy Box Connection. Visit www.toyboxconnection.com or for more details, contact Joyce Latkowski, Marquette Bank, (708) 361-9024, or email jlatkowski@emarquettebank.com .

The Scandinavian Day Festival will occur on September 12

Come Celebrate the Culture, Heritage & Traditions of Denmark , Finland , Iceland , Norway and Sweden at the 31st Annual Scandinavian Day Festival "Celebrating Nordic Authors & The Tales of Scandinavian "

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2010 9AM to 5PM – RAIN OR SHINE PRESENTED BY Scandinavian Day Festival Committee VASA PARK , Route 31 along the Fox River, South Elgin , IL 7 miles South of I-90 Northwest Tollway & 5 Miles North of IL. Rt. 64 North Ave

Adults $10 – Children 12 & Under Free - FREE PARKING FOR FREE ENTRY, wear full Traditional Scandinavian Costume Traditional Scandinavian foods, crafts, games, gifts and entertainment, including the Sun City Concert Band, Ole & Sven with their humorous music from Madison, WI, Normennenes Singing Society and Leikarringen Heimbhg Folk Dancers, FREE Pony Rides for the children, Living History Display, Sweden's Telge Glima "Vikings" presenting Old Nordic Games & more Church Service starts at 10 A.M.

Hotline 847 695 6720
vasaparkil@yahoo.com
Websites:
www.vasaparkil.com or
www.scandinaviandayil.com

Abdullah to address St. Patricia Seniors

Askia Abdullah, an official for Eugene Moore, Cook County Recorder of Deeds, will speak before the St. Patricia's Seniors., Wednesday, August 18 at 12 noon at the Hickory Hills Community Center , 7800 W. 89th. Place, Hickory Hills.

Betty Sherman, coordinator announced Abdullah will explain the workings of the Recorder of Deeds Office along with Home Repair Fraud and Reverse Mortgages.

In his position, Askia is responsible for marketing the office to the general public and professional market sector. He circulates press releases concerning issues and accomplishments of the office and represents the office and Recorder of Deeds at public forums.

He received his Jurist Doctor Jurisprudence from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing Michigan.

E Briefs become news briefs

Get the latest construction updates.

Find out what's happening with the city's water main replacement program and Victoria Drive and Laramie Avenue rehabilitation programs.

Purchase a rain barrel.

The Oak Forest Green Steps Commission is selling rain barrels for $50, plus accessories. Residents who place their orders by August 23 will be able to pick up their rain barrels on August 28 from 9 a.m. to noon at City Hall. For more information, call Chair Janine Perez at 708-337-0484 or e-mail ofgreensteps@commission@oak-forest.org.

Follow us on Twitter.

The City of Oak Forest is using Twitter, the social networking site, to provide residents with important information, such as road closures, community alerts, and upcoming events. Twitter allows us to send out short messages, known as tweets, to interested subscribers. To subscribe to Twitter, visit http://twitter.com. Current subscribers can follow us at http://twitter.com/cityofoakforest.

Question of the Week: How can my organization be a part of the annual Community Awareness Fair in October?

Registration for the 30th Annual Community Awareness Fair, sponsored by the Oak Forest-Crestwood Area Chamber of Commerce, opened earlier this week. Exhibitor fees are as follows: $120 nonprofit organizations, $170 chamber members and $270 non- members. The fee includes a six-foot table, two chairs, pre-fair promotions, Friday night set up and networking, and much more. Registration forms are due by October 8.

And, speaking of the chamber, check out its new OFC-TV series, Behind the Business, on Peg Central. During episode one, Chamber Director Tami Kostecki visits NuWay Disposal's recycling center in Homewood.

To submit a question for consideration, please send an e-mail to cmaher@oak-forest.org and type Question of the Week in the subject line.

Letter to the Editor

Two changes recently made to the property tax code by Governor Quinn and the state legislature are bad for taxpayers and should be repealed.

The first change is a "Senior Penalty" requiring that Senior Exemptions be renewed every year. Evidently, our lawmakers believe that once homeowners turn 65 they may actually get younger. The requirement for seniors to renew each year is an unnecessary burden on seniors as well as the County Assessor's office which must repeatedly process paperwork year after year for taxpayers who have already proven they are eligible for the exemption. The result is more administrative expense, more missed exemptions, more refund applications and more confusion for seniors.

The second change is a reduction in the time for overdue property taxes to be sold to property tax buyers.

Until the recent change, property owners in distress had a full year before their taxes were sold. Now that time period has been reduced to 90 days. In a time when the official unemployment rate is hovering at ten percent and the real unemployment rate is closer to fifteen percent, our lawmakers have made it easier for a homeowner to lose his residence for failure to fully pay his property taxes.

While this legislation may provide taxing districts with more revenue more quickly and provide professional tax buyers an opportunity to make more money it also places an unfair burden on citizens who are already under tremendous financial stress due to declining market values and an inhospitable economy.

The first order of business for our legislature when it reconvenes should be to do right by their constituents and repeal these two errors in judgment.

Dan Patlak
Candidate, Cook County Board of (Tax) Review
847 867 2375

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Lipinski Secures Subcommittee Approval for Saint Xavier University Program to Aid Local Small Business Development

Dan Lipinski

Today, Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-03) announced that the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government approved $100,000 for Saint Xavier University to help create jobs by providing support and advice to prospective and current small business owners in the neighborhoods around the University.

"The economic fortunes of the Chicago region and America as a whole hinge on the health of our small businesses," Congressman Lipinski said. "Small businesses create two-thirds of American jobs and they are the pillars of our communities. But small business owners and those who are considering launching a new business face formidable obstacles right now. We need to help get them the support and assistance they need so they can start hiring and driving the recovery."

The Saint Xavier University Minority Small Business Initiative would help local minority small business owners though a seminar series covering financing, management, and marketing techniques; business consulting designed to turn plans into action; software training; and a program to prevent owners from falling victim to fraud.

"Saint Xavier's Minority Small Business Initiative is significantly enhanced by the infusion of these federal funds," said University President Christine M. Wiseman, J.D. "We are grateful to the House Appropriations Subcommittee and to Congressman Lipinski for recognizing the value of this initiative to our University and our community, and for supporting our initiative with this funding."

The funding is part of the Financial Services and General Government appropriations bill, which must be approved by Congress and signed by the President before the money can be released.

"I'm pleased to support Saint Xavier University as it works to help local small business owners grow their business and create the jobs we need to put the recession behind us," Congressman Lipinski said. "I commend the University for its initiative and its efforts to provide local communities with a much-needed boost."

Orland Township Health Services Provides Blood Pressure Screenings for Residents

Orland Park, August 12, 2010- Orland Township is hosting free blood pressure screenings at 3 different locations during the month of July. On September 15, 2010 residents may have their blood pressure checked at K Mart, located at 16300 S. Harlem Avenue in Tinley Park , from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and on September 29, 2010 at Walmart, 9245 W. 159th St. from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Free blood pressure screenings will also be conducted at Orland Township , 14807 S. Ravinia , on September 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

High blood pressure can lead to many serious conditions such as heart disease and failure. To prevent these problems, it's important to have blood pressure checked and to identify any existing problems, so that lifestyle changes can be made. For more information, contact Orland Township at (708) 403-4222.

About Orland Township Health Services

The mission of the Orland Township Health Services department is to coordinate, educate and advocate for programs and services that improve the health status and general well-being of Orland Township residents. For more information on Orland Township and services offered, visit www.orlandtwp.org.

Attention all School's, Learning Centers, Tutors, Academy's, Private Schools, Pre Schools, Nursery's, Colleges, Call about our Back to School issues. And about Color ads. Call Linda 312-624-8996, for details.

AUGUST 2010 Calendar of Events

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 2	Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 3	Movie & Popcorn "17 Again" 1:00 p.m. 4	Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m. 5	Monthly Birthday Celebration! 12:30 p.m. 6
Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 9	Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 10	Movie & Popcorn "Leap Year" 1:00 p.m. 11	Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m. 12	Let's Play Bingo! 1:00 p.m. 13
Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 16	Dental Seminar 10:00 a.m. Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 17	Movie & Popcorn "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" 1:00 p.m. 18	Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m. 19	Tropical Luau Party! 1:00 p.m. 20
Dental Seminar 9:00 a.m. Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 23	Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 24	Movie & Popcorn "The Notebook" 1:00 p.m. 25	Wii Bowling 11:00 a.m. Line Dancing 1:00 p.m. 26	Join us for a Workshop: Grandparents' Rights! 1:00 p.m. 27
Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 30	Tai Chi 1:00 p.m. 31			

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For more information, please call:

708-430-9504

You are welcome anytime at the Humana Guidance Center —whether you're a Humana member or not.

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Barefoot

By J.R. Haymaker

It had been a long day on board the SS Mohawk. Working on deck all day chipping and painting worked up a good appetite for dinner. I think I ate my usual three servings. This upset the server! He claimed the human didn't need that much food. I was trying to gain weight since I had always been thin and the food came with the job as a seaman aboard the merchant vessel.

After dinner I looked forward to hanging out on deck with some friends of mine from different departments of the ships crew. I was about to leave my cabin and thought about how nice and warm it was outside.

We were steaming south along the eastern coast of Africa. It had been a long time on board since I had signed in Gibraltar . We had delivered a ship load of ammonia nitrate fertilizer to Bangladesh and stopped each way in Colombo, Ceylon, today called Sri Lanka, for food and fuel.

I realized it must have been nine months since I had walked around without wearing my work boots or gym shoes. Even on the steel deck of the ship it would be refreshing to take a stroll barefoot. I took the speedy way out the escape hatch aft of my cabin climbing the ladder onto the deck. As I rounded the aft deck winch I spotted some of my pals laughing and joking. Roberto Rodriguez (Mouse) spotted my bare feet as I walked up to them.

I guess he felt it imperative to go into a long diatribe about the perils of going barefoot on a ships deck. While he was going on with his sermon I could see another friend of ours approach from a hatchway at the other end of the vessel from the location of my cabin. I patiently waited for Mouse to finish his speech.

With a big smile on my face I said, what about him pointing at Craig Troutman. Mouse turned and looked at Craig's feet to see he hadn't worn any shoes either.

Craig was laughing and explained he didn't expect to find me barefoot when he left his cabin and Mouse's brain was spinning.

Nothing was planned, it just happened spontaneously and we all had a good laugh over it!

Governor Quinn and state legislators speak up for children

Speaking up for children does make a difference - even during the most challenging of times.

Kids' early learning and after-school opportunities are growing stronger, thanks to four measures the Governor has signed into law this summer.

None was an easy victory. All faced significant challenges, particularly during the bleakest fiscal atmosphere in decades. Ultimately, though, all passed the legislature on overwhelming, bipartisan votes - due in no small part to your solid support. The new laws will:

·Bolster after-school programs by mapping a course for improved access, quality and coordination. SB 3513 establishes a Youth Advisory Council to guide this work. The legislation was sponsored by Sen. Toi Hutchinson and Reps. Jehan Gordon and Will Davis.

·Preserve our "Preschool for All" efforts at improving young children's access to high quality early learning services. And without SB2594/HB5322, programs serving up to 20,000 kids would have lost their funding authority in July. House Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie and Senate Assistant Majority Leader Kwame Raoul sponsored this measure.

·Improve early childhood facilities' access to $45 million in capital funding that's necessary for building new classrooms and renovating existing ones. Senate Assistant Majority Leader Don Harmon and Rep. Lisa Hernandez led the way on SB3400.

·Strengthen preK students' transportation by ensuring schools are at least partially reimbursed for their busing costs, thus removing some of the barriers that block geographically isolated children from participation. Rep. Roger Eddy and Sen. A.J. Wilhelmi sponsored HB4879.

We thank you for your role in securing these victories. And we ask you to join us in thanking state lawmakers and Governor Quinn for their support of children's well-being.

Military News

Kirk R. Kadish has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant Major in the U.S. Army.

Kadish is a band group leader assigned to the U.S. Army Field Band at Fort George G. Meade, Laurel, Md. The sergeant major has served in the military for 20 years.

He is the son of Barbara Kadish of S. 97th Ave., Orland Park, Ill., and father of Nicholas Kadish of Connecticut St., Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N.M. His wife, Veronica, is the daughter of Mary Banish of 1959 Buckingham, Lincoln Park, Mich. The sergeant major graduated in 1973 from St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Southgate, Mich., and earned his bachelor de., Mich.

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For more information or to schedule a personal visit, contact Mr. Mario Escobedo at 773-925-8686 x116

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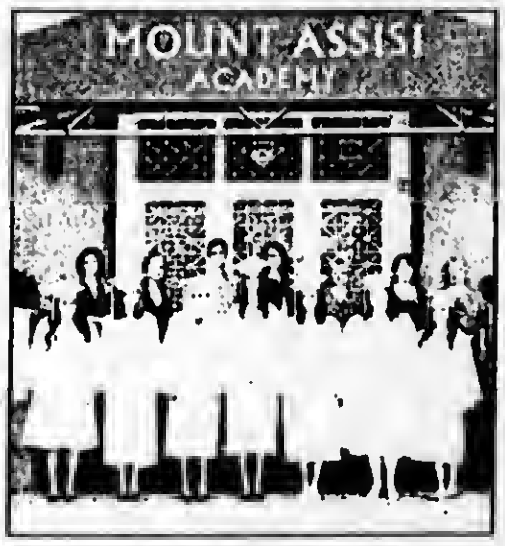

Shadow Days
Friday, September 10, 2010
Friday, October 8, 2010
Friday, November 5, 2010
Monday, November 8, 2010

Friday Fun Fest
November 12, 2010 ~ 4-7pm

Open House
Tuesday Oct 26, 2010 ~ 8-10.30am
Sunday, Nov 14, 2010
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Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9

Partners with Pepsi Tall Ships Festival to Offer Exclusive Package Savings for Both Stunning Spectacles at Navy Pier

See Two Spectacular Shows At Navy Pier

"Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9" has partnered with Pepsi® Tall Ships® Chicago 2010 at Navy Pier® to offer an affordable way to enjoy two of the most anticipated events of the summer. The Cirque Shanghai / Tall Ships package includes one Cirque Shanghai main floor ticket, one Tall Ships viewing ticket (does not include boarding) for $23.50. See both on one day or come back to Navy Pier for more fun! The package is valid for Cirque Shanghai performances beginning Aug.1 and extending through Sep. 6. The Tall Ships Festival takes place Aug. 24 - 29. The package can be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com/shanghai.

In conjunction with the Pepsi® Tall Ships® Chicago 2010 celebration at Navy Pier,"Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9" has added performances Thursday, Aug. 26 and Friday, Aug. 27,at 6 p.m. Free fireworks take place nightly during the festival!

In its only U.S. engagement, Cirque Shanghai delights and astonishes audiences of all ages for a fifth straight summer season with a new world premiere production, "Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9" at Chicago's Navy Pier. Embraced by Chicagoans and visitors alike as "Chicago's Summer Circus," "Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9" will perform through Sep.6, 2010 (Labor Day), rain or shine, at the Navy Pier® Pepsi® Skyline Stage, the 1,500-seat, canopied, open-air theater on Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave.

Daring spectacle, breathtaking artistry and the sheer joy of its dazzling young cast make "Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9" a brand new theatrical experience for audiences of all ages, with acrobats careening from sway poles suspending high above the stage, gravity-defying ladder balances, a unicyclist riding atop a spinning umbrella, the fun and skill of "hat juggling," and featuring "Imperial Thunder," China's finest daredevil motorcycle troupe riding precariously in a steel globe center stage at Pepsi Skyline Stage.

Under the creative direction of Sylvia Hase, directed by Miao Miao Chen and with choreography by Brenda Didier, "Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9" is presented in this exclusive U.S. engagement by Navy Pier in conjunction with International Special Attractions, Ltd. (ISA) production headquarters in Shanghai, China.

Performance Schedule and Ticket Information

"Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9"performs Wednesdays at 2 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Thursdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Fridays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

"Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9" has added performances Thursday, Aug. 26 and Friday, Aug. 27 at 6 p.m. in conjunction with the Pepsi® Tall Ships® Chicago 2010 celebration at Navy Pier, as well as Sunday, Sep 5 at 8 p.m. and Monday, Sep. 6 (Labor Day) at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Tickets are: $34.50 – $19.50 for adults and $12.50 – $14.50 for children ages 3 – 12. Gold Circle seating is priced for all performances at $29.50 for adults and children. Children 2 and under are welcome and admitted free of charge.

Tickets are available by calling 800-745-3000 or visiting www.ticketmaster.com/shanghai. Discounted tickets for groups of 10 or more are available by calling GroupTix at 877.4GRP.TIX (877.447.7849) or visiting www.grouptix.net.

Located on Lake Michigan, just east of Chicago's downtown, Navy Pier is the most-visited tourist and leisure destination in the Midwest, welcoming more than 8 million visitors annually. Originally opened in 1916 as a shipping and recreation facility, it is now one of the country's preeminent recreation and exposition facilities, showcasing 50 acres of parks, gardens, restaurants, shops, attractions, sightseeing and dining cruise boats, exhibition facilities and more.

For more information on "Cirque Shanghai: Cloud 9" visit www.cirqueshanghai.com

Steppenwolf Theatre Presents "Detroit"

A new play by Lisa D'Amour. Directed by ensemble member Austin Pendleton. Featuring ensemble members Kevin Anderson, Kate Arrington, Ian Barford, Robert Breuler and Laurie Metcalf. September 9 – November 7, 2010

Steppenwolf Theatre Company kicks off its 2010-2011 season with Detroit, a new play by Lisa D'Amour, directed by ensemble member Austin Pendleton. Detroit features an all-ensemble cast including Kevin Anderson, Kate Arrington, Ian Barford, Robert Breuler and Laurie Metcalf. Detroit plays September 9 – November 7, 2010 in Steppenwolf's Downstairs Theatre, 1650 N. Halsted St. The press performances are: Saturday, September 18 at 3 pm and Tuesday, September 21 at 7:30 pm.

Picture-perfect couple Ben and Mary fire up the grill to welcome the new neighbors who've moved into the long-empty house next door. Three barbeques later, the fledgling friendship veers out of control, shattering Ben and Mary's carefully maintained semblance of success with comic, unexpected consequences. Detroit is a fresh, off-beat look at what happens when we dare to open ourselves up to something new.

Lisa D'Amour is a playwright and interdisciplinary artist whose works have been presented in New York and other major U.S. cities. D'Amour has been commissioned to write two new plays for Steppenwolf over the next two years through support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. An actor, director and playwright, ensemble member Austin Pendleton began his artistic relationship with Steppenwolf directing the 1979 production of Say Goodnight, Gracie. His award-winning plays include Booth, Uncle Bob and Orson's Shadow, which received its world premiere in the Steppenwolf's Merle Reskin Garage.

Steppenwolf's 2010-2011 season explores the theme of public/private self: how the public and private aspects of our lives unfold in an increasingly complex world.

The design team for Detroit includes: Kevin Depinet (sets), Rachel Healy (costumes), Kevin Rigdon (lights) and Josh Schmidt (sound). Tommy Rapley (choreography) and Matt Hawkins (fight choreography). Polly Carl is the Dramaturg. Michelle Medvin is the Stage Manager and Rose Marie Packer is the Assistant Stage Manager.

Dates: Previews: September 9 – 18, 2010.

Opening: Sunday, September 19 at 6 pm.

Regular Run: September 21 – November 7, 2010.

Curtain Times: Tuesdays through Sundays at 7:30 pm. (Sunday evening performances through October 17 only)

Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday matinees on October 20, 27 and November 3 at 2 pm.

Note: There is no 3 pm or 7:30 pm. performance on Sunday, September 19.

Ticket prices:

Previews: $20-$48

Regular Run: $20-$70

Twenty $20 tickets are available at Audience Services beginning at 11:00 am. on the day of each performance (1 pm for Sunday performances). Half-price rush tickets are available one hour before each show. Student discounts available.

Audience Services: 1650 N. Halsted St., 312-335-1650

Online ticketing available at www.steppenwolf.org

Accessible Performances: Sign language interpreted performance: Sunday, October 17 at 7:30 pm

Audio described performance: Thursday, October 7 at 7:30 pm

Audio described performance with touch tour: Sunday, October 31 – 1:30 pm touch tour/3 pm curtain

Free post-show discussions, sponsored by AT&T, are offered after every performance.

Steppenwolf is located near all forms of public transportation and is wheelchair accessible. Street and lot parking are available. Assistive listening devices and large print programs are available for every performance.

Steppenwolf's New Plays Initiative is generously sponsored by The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, the Zell Family Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and members of the Directors Circle.

Committed to the principle of ensemble performance through the collaboration of a company of actors, directors and playwrights, Steppenwolf Theatre Company's mission is to advance the vitality and diversity of American theater by nurturing artists, encouraging repeatable creative relationships and contributing new works to the national canon. The company, formed in 1976 by a collective of actors, is dedicated to perpetuating an ethic of mutual respect and the development of artists through on-going group work. Steppenwolf has grown into an internationally renowned company of 43 artists whose talents include acting, directing, playwriting and textual adaptation. For additional information, visit www.steppenwolf.org, www.facebook.com/SteppenwolfTheatre and www.twitter.com/SteppenwolfThtr.

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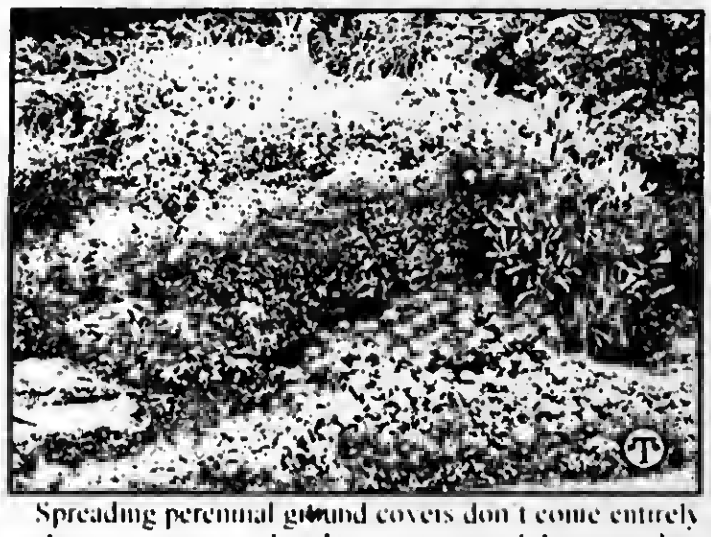

Spreading perennial ground covers don't come entirely without maintenance, but they require much less care than the time it takes to fertilize and mow your lawn.

Trade Your Lawn For A Ground Cover

(NAPSA)-If you're considering what to do about a hard-to-mow patch of your garden, ground cover may have it covered. Most ground covers require less work and fewer chemicals than a lawn-and they never need mowing.

Ground covers do exactly what their name implies: cover the ground with dense plant growth, choking out weeds and lending color and texture to a space. Even hostas and daylilies can be considered ground covers.

Regular turfgrass does a good job if you have a very large, sunny yard. But if you have a smaller area, a spot with shady pockets where turfgrass struggles, a difficult slope where mowing is difficult or another unusual situation, a ground cover can work wonders.

Many ground covers don't like to be walked on, but a few, such as creeping thyme or brass buttons (Leptinella squalida "Platt's Black"), tolerate some foot traffic and look great when planted between pavers and flagstones. Pink Chintz even sports tiny pink flowers in early spring.

If you want color in a partially sunny to sunny area, try the three-part Forever & Ever(r) GroundCover Sedum Carpet Collection. Golden foliage and flowers from Angelina, bronzy-red leaves and red flowers from Red Carpet and rich green foliage and yellow flowers from Kamschatkeum sedum will light up the space.

Many sedums, including John Creech, Sedum diversifolium and Ogon, serve as reliable and beautiful ground covers whose stems can be left for months to provide winter interest. Just clip or break off the old dry stems in early spring before new growth starts.

Ornamental grasses, which come in various heights and shapes, work well in sunny spaces.

In partial to full sun, try a silver-veined winter creeper called Wolong Ghost, a type of spreading euonymus that just needs regular water to stay looking fresh.

Vinca minor, a stalwart ground cover for shade, gets a makeover with "Merlot." Instead of the traditional blue flowers, you'll get burgundy flowers in spring. Or seek out "Double Bowles" vinca minor with a ruffle of extra petals in a lighter shade of violet.

All these tough ground covers are available at home and garden centers.

Helpful Household Hints

Clothes Last Longer, Save Money And The Environment

Seven out of 10 Americans have amended their laundry habits in order to save money, according to a study conducted by Kelton Research.

(NAPSA)-The next time you do laundry, consider this: Clean clothes and significant financial and energy savings are all possible with easy behavioral changes.

Expert Advice

"There are three simple changes that can be made in any laundry room to help save money, energy and environmental resources, and they get clothes just as clean," said green lifestyle expert Alexandra Zissu, author of the forthcoming "Planet Home: Conscious Choices for Cleaning and Greening the World You Care About Most."

"The first big step is replacing conventional laundry detergent with one that is nontoxic, hypoallergenic, biodegradable and free of optical brighteners, like Seventh Generation."

Optical brighteners leave residues on clothes to reflect light and trick the eye, making clothes appear brighter. They can also transfer to your skin.

"Second, be sure to wash clothes in cold water with an occasional hot cycle to kill allergens or tackle bad stains," she advised.

According to Zissu, the majority of the energy costs associated with laundry involve heating the water. Clothes can be effectively cleaned in cold water. In fact, cold water helps prevent stains from setting, colors from bleeding and fading, and prevents shrinking in fabrics prone to do so.

"The third and final step: Line dry clothes on a clothesline or drying rack," explained Zissu. "If the average family washed its laundry in cold water and dried it on a clothesline, it could save $200 a year." Line drying also helps preserve fabric. That lint in the dryer trap is your clothes disintegrating.

Tips To Try

She also offers these ideas:

- Hand-wash "dry clean only" fabrics to avoid the chemicals used in conventional dry cleaning.
- Use just enough detergents, whiteners and spot cleaners.
- Leave the washing machine open between washes so it can dry out to prevent mold.
- Reduce the amount of laundry you do weekly. Things like jeans can be worn a few times before washing.
- Avoid chlorine bleach, it's a severe irritant. Use chlorine-free bleach, such as one from Seventh Generation, to get whites and colors their brightest without using chemicals containing chlorine.

Learn More

To learn more eco-friendly laundry tips, visit www.SeventhGeneration.com/laundryrevolution.

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Small Business Report

The Secret To A Successful Small Business

Solutions for Small Business is unlocking the secrets to entrepreneurial success

(NAPSA)-Small businesses are rapidly becoming large forces in the market

According to U.S. Small Business Administration administrator Karen Mills, "Small businesses are a key engine for job creation across the country." They are reaching larger audiences in a more targeted manner. Their small size and correspondingly simpler organizational charts often let them leverage technological developments more quickly and to greater tactical advantage than those in larger organizations.

For example, adapting to Web-based computing where shared resources such as software and information are provided on demand needs less staff and infrastructure, both of which are more entrenched in larger organizations, thereby requiring staff buy-ing and training.

With fierce competition amid the backdrop of an economic downturn, smart business decision makers know they must employ cutting-edge technology solutions to help with customer acquisition and customer retention and to achieve organizational success. Yet, according to the Yellow Pages Association, more than half of small businesses say that generating new customers is a challenge for them.

As a whole, small businesses are frequently claiming a bigger piece of the market by harnessing some of the innovative Web-based business tools and services available from cable companies.

While today's small businesses may be cutting back in all aspects, there is help for entrepreneurs who want to remain viable and competitive. Small-business executives are discovering a wealth of battle-tested solutions to help them market their products and services, raise capital and boost employee productivity through webcasts, podcasts, case studies and white papers, all free from America's top cable companies at www.solutionsforsmallbusiness.com, so they can gain an edge over their competition.

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Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 8 | Number 16 | August 17, 2010

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Photo by Wehmeier Portraits

Georgia O'Neill of Millin Services and Thomas Hysell from the Moraine Valley Community College Career Preparation Network display promotional materials used during their Business Unwrapped seminar held at the Orland Park Public Library. Business Unwrapped, a joint venture between the Orland Park Public Library and the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce, returns on September 10 from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm. Bring your lunch and learn at this afternoon seminar. All are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to (708) 349-2972 or by visiting the Chamber website at www.orlandparkchamber.org.

Business Unwrapped Enters Third Year

Business Unwrapped, a joint seminar series sponsored by the Orland Park Public Library and the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce, is entering its third year. The learning sessions run from September through May and allow participants to bring their lunch and learn from scheduled business related speakers.

The 2010-11 Business Unwrapped season begins on Friday, September 10 from 11:45 am - 1:00 pm and will be held at the Orland Park Public Library. The library is located at 14921 S. Ravinia Avenue in Orland Park. The September 10 session will feature Hilary Burkinshaw of Center Point, Governors State University. Ms. Burkinshaw's topic of discussion will focus on helping you think outside of the box and encourage your creative side when problem solving in today's business world. All are welcome to attend.

For more information or to RSVP to the event, please contact the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce at 708-349-2972 or email at info@orlandparkchamber.org. Be sure to check the library website for future topics, dates and times.

Village of Orland Park Unveils Staycation Stay and Play Pass

Local Packages Offer Family Fun & Relaxation Before

The Village of Orland Park created its "Staycation Stay and Play Pass," inviting area residents to lighten their carbon footprints, reduce travel expenses, explore the many exciting destinations within the community and support local businesses. The village has brought together local businesses and organizations to offer discount packages for families wanting to enjoy some local outings before summer ends.

The Recreation Play Pass offers options for both indoor and outdoor activities with discounted opportunities for the village's Sportsplex or the Centennial Park Aquatic Center. Participants are able to take advantage of discounted admissions and special prices as often as they like through Labor Day.

"Orland Park's Staycation Program is a great cooperative effort between the village and the business community as we work together to make everyone aware of all there is to do in Orland Park," said Mayor Dan McLaughlin.

The Dining Play Pass invites participants to choose four free coupons from the 21 participating restaurants. Local eateries have contributed discounts and specials for a number of menu items. Participating restaurants include Barraco's, Beggar's Pizza, Buca de Beppo, Burrito Jalisco, Café Gaston, Cooper's Hawk, Dairy Queen, Famous Dave's, Fat Borger, Fuji and Thai Asian Cuisine, Great American Bagel, Hienie's McCarthy's, Mimi's Café, Ottimo Ristorante Italiano, The Patio, Papa Joe's, P.F. Chang's, Red Robin, Rock Bottom, Taste of Europe and T.G.I. Friday's.

"This program helps local businesses and it offers some great deals for residents of all ages," McLaughlin said.

The Fun & Relaxation Play Pass offers packages and discounts for Silver Lake and Palos Country Clubs, Marcus Theatres and Orland Bowl. Packages have also been prepared by a number of local spas and salons including Heavenly Massage and Spa, Life Spa and Salon, Hair by Alex at Salon 151, Gwen Haklin Massage and Perry George Salon and Spa.

"Our staff did a great job putting together a program to give families one last chance to spend some fun time together, close to home before school starts," the mayor added.

The Discovery Play Pass details the many free opportunities available at Orland Park's village parks, including Lake Sedgewick, Disc Golf at Doogan Park, the Grinding Edge Skate Park, picnic sites, tennis courts, bocce ball courts and bike trails.

All packages are available through the Village of Orland Park only at the Sportsplex, 11351 West 159th Street. For more information, call 708/645 PLAY. Or, visit the village's website at www.orland-park.il.us for more information.

The Federal Grant & Contracting Supermarket & Road to Employment Job Fair

The Federal Grant and Contracting Supermarket will be held on Tuesday, August 31st at the Orland Park Civic Center. Federal agencies and other experts will be on hand to provide business professionals with guidance on securing federal grants, learning how to contract with the federal government, accessing new lines of credit, and taking advantage of a multitude of other resources.

The Road to Employment Job Fair will take place on Tuesday, September 14th at the Orland Park Sportsplex. The job fair will connect area job seekers of all experience levels with some of the best employers in the region.

If you or someone you know is looking for work, or you are aware of a local business in search of new talent or growth opportunities, please take advantage of these FREE events. We are especially interested in hearing from any local business operator willing to share their job openings at the job fair. For more information, or to host a free booth at the job fair, click here or call Judy Biggert's Willowbrook office at (630) 655-2052.

The Federal Grant and Contracting Supermarket and the Road to Employment Job Fair is a joint effort of the Office of Judy Biggert, the Village of Orland Park and the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce.

Glee Club is coming to Orland Park

The village's Recreation Department has announced auditions for the "Orland Glee Club," a song and dance ensemble open to those ages fourteen to twenty-two.

"This is a first for the village's cultural arts programs," said Recreation Operations Manager Irene Buikema. "We're looking forward to having this group perform at different venues throughout the area," she added.

Twenty four female and male members will be chosen for the ensemble, which will be directed by Frann Carnivele-Sidlow, resident producer/director of the village's theatre program and Jennifer Miller, executive producer; the ensemble will perform pop, rock, jazz and Broadway hits.

"The television show 'Glee' is one of the most popular series on prime time television right now," Carnivele-Sidlow said.

Auditions will be held Wednesday, August 25 from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. at the village's Cultural Arts Center, 14760 Park Lane. Those auditioning should bring a prepared song to sing a cappella and wear comfortable clothing and shoes to learn and perform a dance.

If named to the ensemble, participants must pay a registration fee, $140 for residents and $210 for non-residents. An additional fee will be required for costumes chosen by the group.

"Frann and I were both in swing choir when we were students at Carl Sandburg," Miller said, adding, "We both loved it and we're looking forward to developing the same type of ensemble with the Orland Glee Club."

The ensemble will rehearse on Monday evenings from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Cultural Arts Center.

For more information, call the Village of Orland Park Recreation Department at 708/403-7275.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 16 | August 17, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Village View Newspapers Extends our Sympathy to the Family of Sharon L. Gallagher-McManigal from Chicago Ridge, IL.

Palos Reads "A Long, Long Time Ago and Essentially True"

The Palos Heights Public Library, Palos Park Public Library, Green Hills Public Library, and Palos Fine Arts invite you to meet author Brigid Pasulka on Tuesday, October 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Palos Heights Public Library for our annual event, "Palos Reads." The program is free! Save the date!

Ms. Pasulka is a local author, descendant of Polish immigrants, who spent most of her life in central Illinois. She currently teaches at the Whitney Young Magnet School in Chicago. Her recent novel, "A Long, Long Time Ago and Essentially True" is the recipient of the 2010 Hemingway Foundation/ PEN Award. It is set in Poland and was inspired by a year long visit to Krakow following her graduation from Dartmouth College.

The Palos Heights Public Library is located at 12501 S. 71st Ave. in Palos Heights, IL. Registration is not required for this event.

New Recycling Carts

Two thousand new 96-gallon recycling carts were delivered recently to residents in Chicago Ridge. The carts, which were partially funded through a grant obtained from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, take the place of the small plastic bins that were previously used by residents. In the case of bad weather, the paper and plastic recyclables placed in the bins could be blown about the neighborhood. Not only do the new carts have lids to keep materials inside, they also have wheels, which makes it much easier to get household recyclables out to the curb for pickup.

Additionally the new carts can be unloaded mechanically by Land & Lakes trucks, rather than by workers who needed to lift and unload each individual bin. It is expected that pickups will take much less time and allow the company to maintain a competitive edge in pricing its services.

It appears that the new carts are helping to make recycling easier for Chicago Ridge residents. Latest figures show that the average tonnage of recyclables has jumped from approximately 30 tons per month to over 40 tons.

Candlelight Bowl Fundraiser 2010

Enjoy an evening of crazy bowling with family and friends! This fun-filled event includes 3-4 games of bowling and a buffet dinner. You may also participate in raffles and split-the-deck. All proceeds benefit South West Special Recreation Association. The last day to register is Friday, October 24th, or until lanes are full. Limited to 6 bowlers per lane.

Registration deadline is October 24 for Teens and Adults. Saturday, November 6th from 9:30 pm to Midnight (11:30 pm Buffet Dinner). Orland Bowl, Orland Park.

The Fee is $25 for residents, $25 for non-residents (shoe rental additional)

Raffle Prizes Needed!!! Please contact Lori Chesna at (708) 389-9423 and we will be happy to pick up your item(s). All donations are tax deductible. No used items please.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Would you like to sponsor a lane at our Candlelight Bowl? For $25, you can get name recognition on a lane to help us raise money for SWSRA programs and scholarship funds. More sponsorship opportunities for the Candlelight Bowl Fundraiser are available. If you would like to receive the tier of sponsorships, sponsor a lane, make a donation or for more information, please contact the South West Special Recreation Association office at (708) 389-9423.

Deadline for sponsorships and donations is October 24th.

Chicago Ridge Building Permit

Many residents are not aware of when they need to secure a building permit. Most people realize that a permit is necessary for any new construction, demolition, structural work, interior or exterior remodeling, or an addition to their home. But a permit is also required for a new deck, patio, garage, dormer, fence, driveway, roof, or swimming pool. In addition, any electrical, plumbing, heating or air conditioning work requires a permit.

Building Permit Applications are available at the Village Hall, Monday thru Friday, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm and Saturday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. You can also print a Building Permit from the Forms and Permits page of the Reference Desk section on the website.

Minimum Building Permit cost is $25.00. Fees are based on the amount of work being done and the estimated cost of construction.

Inspections are required for most permits issued. Inspections called in after 3:00 pm will be dated for the following day. Other permits that are available from the Forms and Permits page of the Reference Desk section of the website are the Plumbing Permit, Mechanical Permit and Electrical Permit. Or call the Village of Chicago Ridge at 708-425-7700.

SWSRA's Agency Award of Excellence

Lori Chesna, SWSRA's Director, presented the Worth Park District's board members with an agency of the year award. Lori stated that this was due to the wonderful relationship and cooperative efforts between the two agencies over the past year.

SWSRA currently leases out the Goy Center for office and programming area. SWSRA is the Park District's Special Recreation Association.

Palos-Orland Conservation Committee's Recycling Event

Palos Park's Administration Center, 8999 W. 123rd Street, Palos Park Monday, August 23rd-Friday, August 27th, 9:00am-5:00pm

Accepted Items: Computers, Monitors, Peripherals, Mice, Keyboards, Printers, Faxes, Scanners, PDA, Cell Phones, Phones, TVs & Laptops, DVDs & Stereos, VCRs, MP3 & IPODs, Video Game Consoles.

Not Accepted: Kitchen Appliances, Hair Dryers, Curling Irons, Terminals, Electronic Tools, Cash Registers, Microwave Ovens, UPS Batteries, Typewriters, Toaster Ovens, Copiers.

Sponsored by: Palos Orland Conservation Committee & The Village of Palos Park. Vintage Tech Recyclers is a full service electronics recycling & refurbishing company that recycles obsolete electronic equipment. It is registered with the Illinois EPA in compliance with the Illinois Electronic Products Recycling & Reuse Act 095-0959.

Heartland Center Blood Drive

We will be hosting a blood drive on Thursday, August 26th from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. at Green Hills Public Library, 8611 W. 103rd Street, Palos Hills in the south lot. All donors will receive a gift card for a FREE quart of Oberweis ice cream. Call (708) 598-8446 ext. 120 to make an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 16 | August 17, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Cook County School District 130 announced sponsors and donations needed for golf outing

Cook County School District 130 invites the community to support the Middle School Sports Program with a day on the links at the 9th Annual District 130 Golf Outing on Friday, Sept. 17, at the Meadows Golf Club, 2802 W. 123rd Street, in Blue Island. Proceeds raised from this event will be used to help offset the cost of after school intersebolastic programs for boys and girls in grades 6-8 from the communities of Blue Island, Crestwood, Alsip, and Robbins.

Registration begins at 3 pm and play will begin with a shotgun start at 4 pm. Please arrive no later than 3:30 pm. The afternoon will conclude with a dinner provided by the Rail Grill and Catering by Cathie, starting at approximately 7 pm. Menu items include hamburgers, Italian sausage, boneless BBQ rib sandwiches, BBQ/grilled chicken, homemade potato salad, fresh garden pasta salad, and tossed green salad with house dressing. A cash bar will also be available.

The cost to participate is $60 per person which includes 9 holes of golf with half cart, dinner and prizes. If golf isn't your sport, please stay for the delicious dinner and socializing for only $30. Registration forms are available online at www.district130.org.

In addition, individuals or businesses may sponsor a golf hole for $200 or donate a prize. Hole sponsorship and prize donation forms are also available on the district website. All registration and donation forms must be returned by Friday, Sept. 10. For more information, please contact Lenore Guytou at 708-385-6800, ext. 102.

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 1,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip, Blue Island, Crestwood and Robbins.

The Federal Grant Job Fair

The Federal Grant and Contracting Supermarket will be held on Tuesday, August 31st at the Orland Park Civic Center. Federal agencies and other experts will be on hand to provide business professionals with guidance on securing federal grants, learning how to contract with the federal government, accessing new lines of credit, and taking advantage of a multitude of other resources.

The Road to Employment Job Fair will take place on Tuesday, September 14th at the Orland Park Sportsplex. The job fair will connect area job seekers of all experience levels with some of the best employers in the region.

If you or someone you know is looking for work, or you are aware of a local business in search of new talent or growth opportunities, please take advantage of these FREE event. For more information, or to host a free booth at the job fair,click here or call Judy Biggert's Willowbrook office at (630) 655-2052.

Blue Island resident is representing Shedd Aquarium Fantasia Show

"It is great to have an agent, but what really is nice is to have a mother who is willing to take me on my auditions and interviews at last minute notices. When I have a job, she drops everything for me so that I can be at that job. If it wasn't for her, this would not be a reality. I am 12 years old and at age nine I began my career in modeling. I have been in the Walgreen's sale paper for Easter and in the America Girl Catalog several times, recently I did a commercial for Build a Bear.

"A year later I wanted to take my career to the next level and pursue acting. That's how I came across being one of the actresses in the show "Fantasia" at the Shedd Aquarium. My main goal is to be on Disney Channel or Nickelodeon. I can't wait for the rest on my journey to begin."

"Now I am a normal kid who enjoys basketball and volleyball. I attend Kerr Middle School in Blue Island and I love to go shopping with my mother and go fishing with my dad. Our family finds time to be together when my sisters, Chiquita and Jamine and my brother Jerry Jr. and I go to the water parks year round."

"For the past years, I have been involved in other activities such as:

·Singing in the church choir ·Cheer Leading at school

·Acting for 2 yrs in a play called "The Night Before Christmas" at the Beverly Art Center in Chicago. I have two dogs Achilles an American Bull Dog and Cuddles ,Pekingese.

The Annual Ladies Card & Game Party Benefits Individuals with Disabilities at Sertoma Centre, Inc. in Alsip

The "Queen of Hearts" Annual Ladies Card & Game Party will be a wonderful afternoon of social gaming and dining on Friday, October 1st, 2010 from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. The event will be held at Gaelic Park, 6119 West 147th Street in Oak Forest, IL.

This event benefits the Sertoma Centre for the physically and mentally disabled. The budget cuts made within the state have resulted in dramatic decline in funding to Sertoma Centre and other community service agencies that provide services to individuals with disabilities. Please plan to attend and bring your friends, help us make a difference in the lives of these individuals.

If you would like to receive an invitation please contact Sertoma Centre Advancement Department at 708-730-6210, or 708 730 6208. We request that you RSVP by September 17, price per person is $40.00. You can also download information & forms regarding the Ladies Card Party from the Upcoming Events under the Events menu of the website - www.sertomacentre.org.

Picture caption: These lovely ladies enjoyed an afternoon of fun and fundraising at Sertoma Centres' first "Queen of Hearts" Ladies' Card & Game Party last October.

There are openings for event sponsors and area merchants that would like to display their goods and services for this fundraising event designed exclusively for women. If you are interested in becoming an event sponsor or would like reserve a vendor table for this event please contacts Melanie Jones at 708-730-6206 or mjones@sertomacentre.org.

Committee opposes the incinerator

On Thursday, August 26, 2010, the Citizens Committee for a Clean Blue Island, opposing the a $450 Million Dollar plasma are incinerator will sponsor a public meeting at Evangelical Community Church 2237 W. 120th Street. We urge all residents of the south and south west vicinity to attend. The meeting will begin at 7 PM.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 5 | September 7, 2010

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

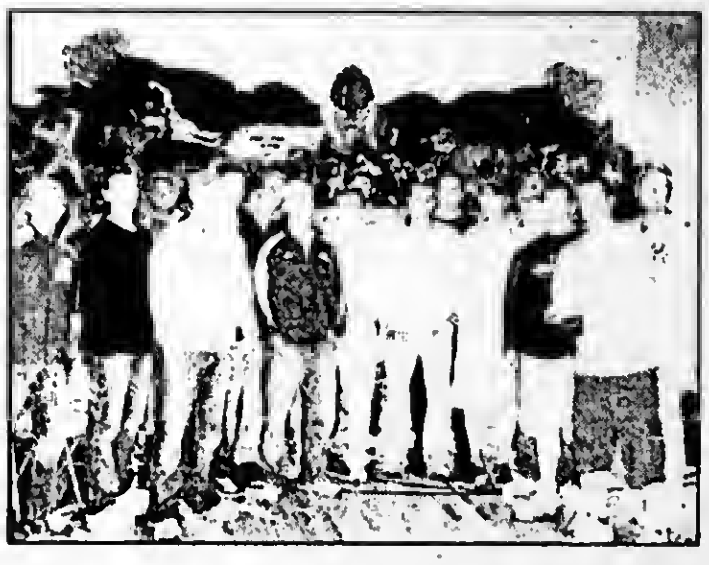
Congratulations to Captain Robert Thauer Chicago Fire Department

Captain Robert Thauer is retiring from the Chicago Fire Department, District 4, Engine 11" on September 16, 2010 after 33 years of duty.

A little about Captain Thauer: He lives in Chicago with his wife Sandra. He has three daughters, Melissa, Diana, and Courtney, and the grandfather of three, Isabelle, Jacob and Arron.

Robert Thauer, the first born of eight, was born in 1950 in Evergreen Park and is a graduate of Queen of Martyrs, Brother Rice High School, 1968 and Moraine Valley Community College. His mother is Rosemarie (Bibbie) Thauer of Orland Park and his Aunt and Uncle is Patricia and Peter Lenz.

The family will be attending the retirement ceremony on September 16, 2010 in Chicago at Chicago Avenue and Cicero.



2ND annual Brother Rice Alumni homecoming reception

The 2nd annual Brother Rice Alumni Homecoming Reception will take place on Friday, September 17 following the varsity football game. The Crusaders will face the Celtics from Providence Catholic at 7:30 PM. After the game, all alumni are invited to gather in the North Gym as we honor the 1985 IHSA State runner up football team as they celebrate their 25th anniversary.

Also being honored that evening are the first inductees to the inaugural class of the Circle of Champions Athletic Hall of Fame. Current and former coaches such as Bob Twardy '65, Dennis Duffy '64, Cliff Petrak, Pat Richardson, Jamie Pembroke and Nick Markulin are expected to be in attendance.

Tickets are $20 when purchased in advance and $30 at the door which includes appetizers and beverages. For more information call 773-429-4345. Must be 21 with a valid ID.

Mary Carrol to address Trinity Lutheran Fellowship Seniors

Mary Carroll, Community Education Specialist, at the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will speak before the Trinity Lutheran Fellowship Seniors, Thursday, September 2 at 1 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, 9701 S. Brandt Avenue, Oak Lawn. Fern Hardt, coordinator, announced that Mary will share her expertise on the workings of the MWRD.

In her position, she is the District's employee whose job is completely educational in nature. A former school teacher and voiceover talent, she now speaks to community and school groups about the District's mission and tasks. Mary also arranges tours for the public at District facilities and creates educational materials for people of all ages.

As an employee of 15 years, she has spoken to more than 750 groups and arranged thousands of tours, all with the purpose of informing the public about their special government agency.

As a civil servant, the Community Education Specialist works for the people that she serves.

Burbank Park District announces programs

Fall Registration

Residents can begin registering for Fall programs on Tuesday, September 7. Non Residents can begin registering on Monday, September 13th. Make sure to bring a Driver's license or State I.D. for proof of residency. Registration is held at Newcastle Park, 8080 S. Newcastle, Burbank. Open Monday-Friday, 9:00am-5:00pm and Saturdays from 9:00am-12:00pm.

For more information call the Burbank Park District at 708-599-2070.

Preschool

Our Preschool program is designed to assist the preschooler in learning to follow directions, getting along with others and developing the basic skills for Kindergarten. Children must be 4 years of age by September 1, 2010 to enable the child to attend Kindergarten the following year. Birth certificates and immunization records are required at time of registration. Choose either the MWF class at $125 for residents, $175 non residents or the TTH class at $99 for residents, $138 for nonresidents. Session 1 begins September 20th. You can register at any time for our Preschool Classes.

Playschool

Our Playschool program is designed for children who will be going to Kindergarten in two years or less. In this early childhood program, students work towards mastering fine motor and socialization skills.

Children will participate in singing and movement games, seasonal arts and crafts and other fun filled activities that develop the social and educational needs of 3 and 4 year olds. Children must be potty trained and out of diapers.

Children must be 3 years of age by September 1, 2010. Birth certificates and immunization records are required at time of registration. Choose either the MWF class at $125 for residents, $175 nonresidents or the TTH class at $99 for residents, $138 for nonresidents.

Session 1 begins September 21. You can register at any time our Playschool Classes.

Tax relief for Victims of July 22 storms

Victims of severe storms and flooding beginning July 22 in parts of Illinois may qualify for tax relief from the Internal Revenue Service.

The President has declared the following counties a federal disaster area: Carroll, Cook, DuPage, Jo Daviess, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago. Individuals who reside or have a business in these counties may qualify for tax relief.

Casualty Losses

Affected taxpayers in a federally declared disaster area have the option of claiming disaster-related casualty losses on their federal income tax return for either this year or last year. Claiming the loss on an original or amended return for last year will get the taxpayer an earlier refund, but waiting to claim the loss on this year's return could result in a greater tax saving, depending on other income factors.

Individuals may deduct personal property losses that are not covered by insurance or other reimbursements. For details, see Form 4684 and its instructions.

Affected taxpayers claiming the disaster loss on last year's return should put the Disaster Designation "Illinois Severe Storms and Flooding" at the top of the form so that the IRS can expedite the processing of the refund.

Other Relief

The IRS will waive the usual fees and expedite requests for copies of previously filed tax returns for affected taxpayers. Taxpayers should put the assigned Disaster Designation in red ink at the top of Form 4506, Request for Copy of Tax Return, or Form 4506-T, Request for Transcript of Tax Return, as appropriate, and submit it to the IRS.

Affected taxpayers who are contacted by the IRS on a collection or examination matter should explain how the disaster impacts them so that the IRS can provide appropriate consideration to their case.

Taxpayers may download forms and publications from the official IRS Web site, irs.gov, or order them by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676). The IRS toll-free number for general tax questions is 1-800-829-1040.

The Key to Digital Privacy

Encrypt Stick™ Turns Any Flash Drive into a Digital Privacy Manager

You wouldn't leave your home or your car unlocked. You just turn a key and you're protected. That little key is the ounce of prevention that's worth a pound of cure. It's fast, easy, effective and inexpensive. You'd be foolish not to use it.

Millions upon millions of people leave even more valuable items unprotected every day. Digital files containing financial information, company's trade secrets, medical records, and private pictures best left unseen are stored on their PC's, laptops or flash drives. What about your sensitive files?

Scary fact. More than 12,000 laptops are lost or stolen every week in the U.S. Even scarier fact. Flash drives are even easier to lose. What happens to all that data if it gets into someone else's hands?

It was easy for the guy who hacked Sarah Palin's email password and account doing just a few Google searches for information about her. What about the guys who fix your computer when you take it in for repairs? Can you trust them with access to your most private data?

It's painful to even think of the havoc that digital data dippers could wreak after gaining access to your personal, financial, or corporate data.

So why don't people more protect their data? It's not like there are no options. There are more than more than 100 software and hardware encryption solutions available to protect your digital privacy. Any one does part of, or all of the job, with varying degrees of effectiveness, ease and economy.

The trouble is the better ones, like the Iron Key hardware solution, can be very pricey. And they're programmed to melt down if anyone tries to break through their security wall - you lose all your data.

Some of the better encryption software is very effective, but they can be awkward to use and leave you high and dry if you lose you password. No password, no access to data. And then there are password managers that can help keep your various passwords organized, but they can get complicated too – without providing protection from key logging programs.

The creators of Encrypt Stick™, ENC Security Systems have been working since 2005 to perfect digital privacy management (DPM) software that really hits the security sweet spot for ease, economy and effectiveness. http://www.encryptstick.com

Encrypt Stick™ uses the hardware ID of a flash drive, along with a password you choose, to create hidden vaults on your hard disk, or any other media you can write on, including the flash drive. Since it runs from the flash drive it leaves no footprint on any computer. The vaults, the storage areas to keep your hidden, encrypted data, are encrypted with ENC's robust 512-bit polymorphic encryption algorithms.

Here are the top reasons for checking out the latest Encrypt Stick™ release:

- Easy to download the software
- Easier to use than other encryption programs.
- Strong, fast encryption.
- Leaves no footprint on the host computer.
- You can take your important files with you safely
- If you lose your flash drive, you can quickly access encrypted files on your PC through a new license via ENC's website.
- You only have to remember one password. The Built in Password Manager not only stores passwords but can also automatically generate strong passwords.
- Virtual encrypted keyboard deters key-logging.
- Licenses for Mac and Windows; no extra cost; XP or OSX 10.4 or later is required
- You can try Encrypt Stick™ for FREE.
- Enhanced full version ($40.00 special offer at the time of this writing is $19.95) grants license for a single flash drive, removes all limitations and adds many new features!

Just add Encrypt Stick™ software to your flash drive! Now wherever you go, your digital files will be protected and you'll always have your passwords available when accessing servers or websites from the road.

By: Patrick Cotter

Patrick is a Vancouver, BC based freelance tech writer.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnew@sbcglobal.net

Owner Editor Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

A meeting between Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council 1444 Past Grand Knight Larry Lynch (left), Drive for People with Intellectual and Physical Disabilities Chairman Bernie Moonan, and Grand Knight Rich Doyle signals the start of planning for the drive's kickoff the weekend of September 17th – 19th on the far Southwest Side.

Knights of Columbus will be out collecting for the Disable

Father Perez Knights of Columbus Council 1444 members, families and friends will fan out across the Southwest Side September 17th, 18th and 19th to kick off the council's 2010 – 2011 Drive for People with Intellectual and Physical Disabilities.

Scores will work 12 intersections and several Walgreens, Dunkin Donuts and CVSs and a White Hen. People from the Southwest Side are asked to keep an eye out for the volunteers and be generous.

The Southwest Side can be proud of itself and Father Perez Council as their combined efforts have led all areas of the state and all Illinois Knights of Columbus councils in money raised and consequently money distributed to local secular and Catholic and non-Catholic religious organizations that provide services for community members with intellectual and physical disabilities for the past 5 years!

This year Father Perez passed on the proceeds of the 2009-2010 drive to 14 community organizations!

After advising his fellow Knights to be careful in traffic, Bernie Moonan, Perez's chairman of the drive said, "The first principle of our order is charity and year after year the Perez Council, because of a supportive community, has helped improve the quality of life for Southwest Side residents with disabilities.

God bless everyone who works an intersection and those who reach deep into their pockets to help fill the canisters."

Anyone interested in assisting Father Perez Council in this venture may contact Moonan at 708-837-5890.

Pat Quinn's Illinois No Jobs, No Reform

Brady Says Quinn Obsessed with Politics, Not Jobs Republican Gubernatorial candidate Bill Brady said Governor Pat Quinn's firing of the state's Executive Inspector General on the very day he learned of an ethics probe involving his chief of staff suggests he's focused on politics, not jobs during our fiscal crisis.

"In the middle of a recession, people need a governor focused on creating jobs and cleaning up state government," said Brady. "Instead, Governor Quinn has gone down the same road of his predecessors ethical lapses, investigations, and protecting political insiders at taxpayer expense."

"Illinois lost 20 thousand jobs last month alone," he said. "This latest revelation proves we won't ever solve our fiscal crisis under a governor consumed by politics, not jobs," he said.

Questions over the firing of the state's top ethics official are the latest in a string of published reports that call into question the Governor's commitment to government reform, and the priorities of his Administration.

Previous examples include:

- Secret pay raises for political appointees, including his Budget Director
- Questionable use of official state time and resources for his political campaign
- Supporting the honesty and integrity of convicted Governor Rod Blagojevich months after federal officials revealed their investigation
- Quietly signing a video poker bill to allow known criminals into gambling against the recommendation of the Gaming Commission
- Failing to support the recommendations of his own reform commission
- Keeping a majority of Rod Blagojevich's officials in top government positions
- Vetoing MetPier reforms

Brady (R-Bloomington) is a small business owner who has represented his community as state Senator since 2002. He is running for governor to bring a clean break to Illinois and build a job-growing environment. More information can be found at bradyforillinois.com

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The Oak Lawn Chapter of Aglow International will meet on Thursday, September 9th, 2010 at Mama Lugi's Restaurant, 7500 S. Harlem, Bridgeview, Illinois. Dinner tickets are $13.00, available at 6:30PM at the door. Dinner is served promptly at 7:00PM. Reservations are required by September 7th.

For additional information and reservations please call June at (708) 424-1656.

Aglow International is an inter-denominational organization of renewed Christian women, with over 2,600 fellowships which regularly hold meetings, retreats, and conferences on six continents.

Aglow holds bible studies and publishes leadership training materials, books, and tracts, reaching out to women in prisons and hospitals, teenage girls, with intercessory prayer groups, and support groups.

Data Shows the Home Can be the Most Dangerous Place for Eyes

Of the 2.5 million eye injuries that occur annually, almost half of those happen at home. According to the most recent data from the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) and the American Society of Ocular Trauma (ASOT), more than 30 percent of all home eye injuries required emergency room care. And, the AAO states that eye injury is one of the leading causes of visual impairment in the United States.

The most common eye injuries occur when doing lawn work, kitchen projects or when using harsh chemicals. Flying debris or nails were the cause of most eye injuries with blunt objects, such as construction hand tools or hardware, a close second. The most common eye injuries are abrasions, lacerations, or other eye irritations.

When starting any project, whether it be cleaning surfaces with chemicals, working on the car or doing yard work, Prevent Blindness America urges everyone to wear eyewear approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The eyewear should have the "Z-87" logo stamped on the frames and can be purchased at hardware stores and home building centers.

"We often get complacent about eye protection in the home while doing basic chores or tasks," said Hugh R. Parry, president and CEO of Prevent Blindness America. "But just because an accident has not happened before, does not mean our eyes are out of danger. We must be diligent about protecting our eyes today to prevent potentially blinding injuries in the future."

Knowing what to do for an eye emergency can save valuable time and possibly prevent vision loss. Prevent Blindness America offers a free "First Aid for Eye Emergencies" sticker that can be placed on the inside of a medicine cabinet.

Basic eye injury first aid instructions include:

Chemical Burns to the Eye

·Immediately flush the eye with water or any other drinkable liquid. Hold the eye under a faucet or shower, or pour water into the eye using a clean container. Keep the eye open and as wide as possible while flushing. Continue flushing for at least 15 minutes.

·DO NOT use an eyecup. DO NOT bandage the eye.

·If a contact lens is in the eye, begin flushing over the lens immediately. This may wash away the lens.

·Seek immediate medical treatment after flushing.

Specks in the Eye

·DO NOT rub the eye.

·Try to let tears wash the speck out or use an eyewash.

·Try lifting the upper eyelid outward and down over the lower lid.

·If the speck does not wash out, keep the eye closed, bandage it lightly, and see a doctor.

Blows to the Eye

·Apply a cold compress without putting pressure on the eye. Crushed ice in a plastic bag can be taped to the forehead to rest gently on the injured eye.

·In cases of pain, reduced vision, or discoloration (black eye), seek emergency medical care. Any of these symptoms could mean internal eye damage.

Cuts and Punctures of the Eye or Eyelid

·DO NOT wash out the eye with water or any other liquid.

·DO NOT try to remove an object that is stuck in the eye.

·Cover the eye with a rigid shield without applying pressure. The bottom half of a paper cup can be used.

·See a doctor at once.

For more information on how to protect your eyes at home, eye protection recommendations, or to request the First Aid for Eye Emergencies sticker in English or Spanish, call Prevent Blindness America at (800) 331-2020 or visit preventblindness.org.

Jazzercise hosts free open house

Cindy Lunz, a Chicago-Oak Lawn-area Jazzercise instructor, will offer a citywide free-for-all Jazzercise Open House Monday, September 13, 2010 at Grace Community Church, 10415 S. Kedvale in Oak Lawn at 9:15 a.m. and in Mt. Greenwood at the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences, 3857 West 111th Street at 7:15 p.m.

"This event allows me to thank all the students who have made Jazzercise a success in Chicago and Oak Lawn," Lunz said. "I also want to give the public an opportunity to see what Jazzercise is all about."

Open house festivities will include information on the Jazzercise program and a free workout. Admission is free to everyone, and participants should dress to exercise. Refreshments will also be served. There will be door prizes and special class registration.

The 60-minute Jazzercise class includes a warm-up, high-energy aerobic routines, muscle-toning and cool-down stretch segment. Jazzercise combines elements of dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kickboxing and more to create programs for people of every age and fitness level. Alternative formats include Jazzercise Lite, Jazzercise Personal Touch and Junior Jazzercise. **About Jazzercise**

Judi Sheppard Missett, who turned her love of jazz dance into a worldwide dance exercise phenomenon, founded the Jazzercise dance fitness program in 1969. She has advanced the business opportunities of women and men in the fitness industry by growing her program into an international franchise business that today, hosts a network of 7,500 instructors teaching more than 32,000 classes weekly in 32 countries.

The workout program, which offers a fusion of jazz dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, and kickboxing movements, has positively affected millions of people worldwide. Benefits include increased cardiovascular endurance, strength, and flexibility, as well as an overall "feel good" factor. For more information on Jazzercise, contact Lunz at 773-238-7716. For worldwide class information, go to jazzercise.com or call 1800-FIT-IS-IT.

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Enjoy Autumn in Illinois

Autumn is a very special time in Illinois. As the vibrant fall colors begin to appear, travelers have the opportunity to attend exciting and relaxing events throughout the state. From festivals and fairs to corn mazes and pumpkin patches, Illinois offers something unique to celebrate the season.

Attached you will find a wide variety of Illinois events from every region to appeal to every traveler. While couples will appreciate sampling Illinois wine, and friends will enjoy reveling in nature's show stopping colors, kids will look forward to spooky Halloween activities and festivals. And as the holidays approach, festive lights will be on display for the whole family to enjoy. There's never a shortage of fantastic events and destinations in Illinois, so why not plan your fall filling getaway right now.

Contact information for individual events are included and the full list can be found at the Illinois Office of Tourism's official Website, http://www.enjoyillinois.com/illinoismeetingcenter/index.aspx.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Tourism manages industry efforts that result in sustainable and significant economic and quality of life benefits for Illinois residents.

The President Lied, Your Insurance Policy Died

By Sally C. Pipes

"If you like your healthcare plan," pledged President Obama, "you will be able to keep your healthcare plan."

As the president barnstormed in favor of his health overhaul, that promise was a constant – appearing in speeches, media appearances, and all the administration's literature. It was a lie.

Earlier this summer, the White House fessed up. By 2013, according to the administration, eight in ten employer-sponsored health insurance plans could be gone.

The Departments of Labor, Treasury, and Health and Human Services recently released a package of rules for granting insurance policies "grandfather" status. Policies that abide by the rules will remain legal under President Obama's health overhaul. Unfortunately, they're so restrictive that most existing insurance plans will disappear.

Under the rules, employers are essentially barred from making any adjustments to their current health insurance arrangements. They can't increase co-payments by more than $5 or 15 percent, whichever is greater. They can't raise deductible by more than 15 percent. And they can't bump up the share an employee pays toward the cost of his health plan.

Such regulations ignore the fact that employers and insurers consistently tweak their plans to better serve beneficiaries and lower costs. The government report that contains the new rules even says so, according to the report, 48 percent of large employers and 66 percent of small employers altered a premium or a cost-sharing schedule in 2009.

Further, the rules prohibit businesses from switching insurance companies – even if they're able to negotiate a better deal on a similar plan.

Health insurance costs are already set to rise nearly 10 percent in 2011. The grandfather rules expect employers to absorb the entirety of that increase.

Employers are damned if they continue providing insurance to their workers and damned if they don't. They can offer the policies they've always offered and eat any cost increase. Or they can switch policies and comply with all of Obamacare's costly mandates.

Unions, conveniently enough, won't have to meet all the same requirements. Collectively bargained plans are exempt from the grandfathering rules.

Eventually, as health insurance costs continue to escalate, even the best-off employers will not be able to comply with the grandfathering rules. The Obama administration is well aware of this fact. "At some time," the government report states, "most plans will relinquish their grandfathered status."

For many American workers, that time will be soon. The administration estimates that up to 42 percent of employers could see their grandfather status revoked next year. By 2013, the percentage could be as high as 80 percent. Small businesses would be hit hardest.

What happens next? In Massachusetts, which implemented what amounts to a trial version of Obamacare in 2006, 90 small companies recently announced plans to drop employee health coverage. They're encouraging their employees to sign up for state-subsidized plans.

Employers nationwide will no doubt do the same. They'll respond to the new mandates and elevated costs by dropping their coverage altogether.

Workers who don't want to go without coverage will be left with only one option: Enroll in the government-run health insurance exchanges, where, thanks to a bevy of new mandates, the government effectively designs insurance plans. Those government-approved plans come at a price: the Congressional Budget Office expects the premiums for individual plans like those bought through the exchanges to increase by 10-13 percent.

Premiums could go even higher if Rep. Lynn Woolsey (D-Calif.) has her way. She's introduced a measure that would bring back the public option in 2011.

This government-funded insurance plan could easily undercut private plans by filling any losses with taxpayer dollars. Eventually, private insurers would be driven from the marketplace, unable to compete with the government's unfair rates. Eventually, the public option would be the only option.

As presidential promises go, the assurance that individuals can keep their health plans was a whopper. The truth is, if you like your healthcare plan, well, tough luck.

Sally C. Pipes is President & CEO of the Pacific Research Institute. Her latest book, The Truth About Obamacare (Regnery 2010), was just released.

Pappas unveils Thai Language Brochures

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas presents Thai language brochures issued by her office to Vice Consul General of Thailand Vernnice Viraporn at a reception in Pappas' downtown Chicago office that was attended by Thai community leaders.

The brochures contain information about refunds, exemptions and other matters important to homeowners, business owners and landowners, and are available on Pappas' website at cookcountytreasurer.com. Pappas said that she wants those comfortable in Thai to have important property information available to them.

Reporting on Free Entertainment at Millennium Park

by Annette Dixon

Recently in the past week, the Department of Cultural Affairs along with the Mayor's Office offered events many attendees have never seen.

Tuesday, August 31st for example, the Million Dollar Quartet, appeared at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion.

In December of 1956 four great Musical Innovators united at Sun Record in Memphis for a gathering. They were Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley with his girlfriend Dyanne [on] Musicians and a female singer enact this performance at the Apollo Theater at 2540 N. Lincoln Ave. 773.935.6011.

Thurs. the Chicago Jazz Orchestra celebrated with the great Ahmad Jamal for his 80th birthday. Two years ago he teamed with the Chicago Jazz Orchestra at Symphony Center and now at Millennium Park. This was one of the best times ever. To be able to watch a genius musician perform with zest with his trio and later with a full orchestra. His outstanding hit which people always remember is "Poinciana," and he played it as smooth as he did in the 50's.

Friday, the beginning of Labor day weekend again at Millennium Park, the one and only Ramsey Lewis Trio played for thousands of excited people. It was his 75th Birthday Tribute to Chicago, where he first started. His birthday was May 27th, but it didn't matter to us. He introduced some well written pieces, one he never performed anywhere. This was the first time Ramsey Lewis performed in Millennium Park as he said, "he loved the Chicago audience".

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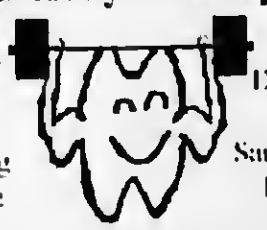

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Vasa Park, Route 31 along the Fox River, South Elgin, IL. 7 miles South of I-90 Northwest Tollway & 5 miles North of IL Rt. 64 North Ave. Adults $10 - Children 12 & Under Free - FREE PARKING
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Traditional Scandinavian foods, crafts, games, gifts and entertainment, including the Sun City Concert Band, Ole & Sven with their humorous music from Madison, WI, Normennenes Singing Society and Lekarringen Heimbug folk Dancers. FREE Pony Rides for the children. Living History Display: Sweden's Helge Glima "Vikings" presenting Old Nordic Games & more. Church Service starts at 10 A.M.

Hotline 847-695-6720 • E-mail: vasaparkil@yahoo.com
www.vasaparkil.com or www.scandinaviandayil.com

Authors to visit writing workshops at Moraine Valley this fall

Learn how to become the next bestselling author or how to simply record your life story in one of three noncredit writing courses offered this fall at Moraine Valley Community College, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. Students in two of the classes will meet local authors who have published books.

Writers who already have created a finished piece can find out what it takes to introduce their work to a wider audience in "Get Your Creative Works Published." The publishing industry has so many more options than it did 10 years ago. Discover the many resources for revised, finished works. Participants must possess Internet and e-mail skills. This six-week class meets on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m., beginning September 21.

Students in this class will hear from three visiting authors: Kathy Jager, of Oak Forest, author of "As the Chair Turns: Tips and Snips of Advice for Your Journey Behind the Chair," which is targeted to cosmetology professionals; Marsha Wenig, of Michigan City, founder of Yoga Kids International, Inc., who wrote "Educating the Whole Child Through Yoga;" and Suzanne Zaccone, of Hinsdale, author of "A Random Interruption: Surviving Breast Cancer with Laughter, Vodka, Smoothies and an Attitude."

Zaccone also will visit the "Memoir Writing" class. Everyone has a story to tell, and this class allows participants to tell theirs. In-session writing and creativity exercises will help participants generate ideas and unearth memories and experiences. Participants need to bring a notebook and pen to class. This six-week class meets on Mondays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., beginning October 18.

In the "Creative Writing" class, students will tap into their inner thoughts and brainstorm their way through poetry, journals, and short stories. A notebook and pen are required for class. This four-week class meets on Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m., beginning October 21.

Register for these noncredit courses in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-0556). Participants also can register on-line at morainevalley.edu by clicking the Admission Form link under Quick Clicks on the homepage and following the prompts.

For more information, call Workforce Development and Community Services at (708) 974-5735.

Orland Township Seniors to see "A Chorus Line"

Orland Township is offering a Senior Trip to see "A Chorus Line" on Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at the Marriott Lincolnshire Theater. This is One Singular Sensation! For 17 dancers it's the chance of a lifetime, but only eight will be chosen. Winner of nine Tony Awards including Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for drama, this legendary musical is brimming with some of composer Marvin Hamlish's best.

Before the play, lunch will be served consisting of a Baby Green Spinach Salad with Honey Mustard Dressing, your choice of Lemon Herb Chicken or Baked Cod with Beurre Blanc. Both entrees are served with Lemon Corn Cups and Steamed Asparagus. Also included is Dessert and your choice of Coffee or Tea.

Ticket price includes lunch, show and deluxe coach transportation and will be available at the Orland Township Office, 14807 So. Ravinia, Orland Park.

Resident tickets are available now for $70.00 each.

Non-resident tickets will be on sale starting September 15 for $75.00 each.

Buses will leave from the north side of 151st Street directly west of the Bank Financial parking lot at 9:15 a.m. and return approximately 5:00 p.m.

Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, and the western half of Tinley Park, and the unincorporated area of Orland Township.

Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact Marie Ryan, Senior Services Coordinator at (708) 403-4222.

You Can't Beat the House

The Orland Park Theatre Troupe will perform its fall comedy, "You Can't Beat the House" September 17, 18 and 19 at the Orland Park Civic Center. The show was written by Pat Cook and is produced by special arrangement with the Eldridge Publishing Company. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. with the Sunday matinee beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Directed by Jimmy Mazenka, the cast includes (seated, l to r) Christopher Casper, Mary Dimmello, Shelly Burnett, Bryan Riess and Frann Carnivele. Sidlow. Standing (l to r) are Jan Wittenmeyer, Yvonne Ambrose, Ashley Miletich, Rob Siebert and Bob Szczepanski. Ticket information is available at 708-403-7275.

During September, MetroSouth Medical Center offering "Popcorn for Pops"

MetroSouth Medical Center believes men need to "get popping" when it comes to seeing the doctor. Recent studies show only 57 percent of all men get physicals, compared to 74 percent of women. That's why MetroSouth is encouraging dads, and men in general, to see a family doctor for a physical so that life-threatening medical conditions can be diagnosed and treated early. Between now and September 30, men who see a family physician will receive a gift certificate from gourmet popcorn shop "Let's Get Poppin."

In addition, all men visiting a MetroSouth family medicine physician will receive a complimentary screening checklist and folder to organize their medical histories and files. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 708-489-7925 or visit www.MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com. Screening tests, such as the ones MetroSouth family physicians provide, can detect diseases early when they are easier to treat. Health experts from the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force have made recommendations about testing for the following conditions: -Obesity -High Cholesterol -High Blood Pressure -Colorectal Cancer Prostate Cancer -Aortic Aneurys -Diabetes -Depression -Sexually Transmitted Infections -HIV To make an appointment with a doctor near you, call 708-489-7925 for a physician referral. Also, find out by visiting: www.healthconnect.MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com.

16TH ANNUAL ART SILHAN MEMORIAL MUSICHORALE GOLF OUTING

Enjoy a relaxing day...come out and play!
Sunday, September 26, 2010
at Glenneagles Country Club
13070 McCarthy Road, Lemont, IL 60439
Tee times are 11:30am - 12:30pm
Join Musichorale for a day of golf, dinner, prizes and fun!
Cash Bar 5:30pm - Dinner 6:30pm
This is a fundraiser for the Annual Musichorale Scholarship Contest.
Prize donations are very much appreciated. All contributions to Musichorale are tax deductible. For more information please call:
Jeff Silhan at 773-239-6279 or Jacque Goode at 773-779-2163.
Donations may be mailed to Silhan, 10700 S. Hoyne, Chicago, IL 60643.
Please make checks payable to Musichorale.
Please visit www.musichorale.org.

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Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
10806 S. Cicero, Oak Tree Plaza
Oak Lawn, IL

Buy 1 Spaghetti or Mostaccioli Dinner w/Garlic Bread
Get 1 FREE
Meatballs or Sausage add $2 each Dinner
Expires September 20, 2010.
Must mention & present coupon when ordering.

Gyros Sandwich w/onion, sauce & tomato $1.99 Limit 2
Expires September 20, 2010.
Must mention & present coupon when ordering.

Now Serving Hershey's Ice Cream
Buy 1 Scoop and Get 2nd Scoop FREE
Expires September 20, 2010.
Must mention & present coupon when ordering.

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3-6 Years Old
1/2 Day Extended Day 5 Hrs & Full Day Classes Available
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Oak Lawn Library programs

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free movie screening of "In America" on Friday, September 17 at 10 a.m. In this 2002 film, a young Irish immigrant family adjusts to their new life in modern day New York City. Rated: PG-13. Running time: 105 min.

Attn: College Students

This fall, representatives from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) Corps will present three free programs for college bound students and their families at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St.

*College Jeopardy Monday, September 20 at 7 p.m., Students will work in small groups and compete against one another for points. Topics include: Types of schools and degrees, financial aid, picking a major.

*** The College Application, Mon. October 18 at 7 p.m.** This presentation will help juniors and seniors understands the college admissions process and provide tips on creating a personal statement, interviews, and letters of recommendation. Topics include College applications, extracurricular activities, essays and interviews.

College 101 Monday, November 15 at 7 p.m. Learn in depth information about degrees, types of post secondary programs and finding the right fit. Go on a scavenger hunt where students search college brochures to answer questions about state universities.

Topics include: College as an investment, what to expect from a college experience, with emphasis on college visits as a way to get to know a school. View a complete schedule of adult programs at www.oaklawnlibrary.org. For additional information, call 708-422-4990.

Oak Lawn Senior Happenings

The Senior Center, located at 5330 West 95 Street offers a wide variety of activities for Oak Lawn Seniors. In addition to the daily activities the following will be offered in the month of September

Monday, September 20th at 10:00 a.m. Dennis Koppo will entertain. His many talents include playing the sax, clarinet and country fiddle. His vocalist performance will also include a lively variety show.

Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the performance.

Thursday, September 23rd is box lunch day. The success of the day is thanks to local businesses who offer to sponsor the program. This day is thanks to 21st Century Chiropractic located at 4907 West 95th Street Dr. Helwig will be talking about arthritis, the warning signs, possible causes and preventive steps to decrease arthritis development.

The must see presentation begins at 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center followed by lunch and bingo. The cost is $3.50 and seating is limited.

Flu and Pneumonia shots

On Wednesday, October 8th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Maxim Health Systems will be at the Senior Center to immunize those in need of Flu or pneumonia shots. For residents over 65, they need to only show their Medicare card to receive the shot. For those under 65, the cost is $30 for the Flu shot and $50 for the pneumonia shot.

Prior registration is required. Call the Senior Center at 708-499-0240 or stop by the office at 5330 West 95 Street to register.

Chicago Ridge Library programs

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, is hosting a "College Planning Workshop" on Thursday, September 30th at 7:00 p.m. Help your college bound student choose the right career track and select the right college. Learn how not to overburden your student with debt and not endanger your financial future. Both parents and college bound students should join us for this valuable workshop. Please join us for this free program, and call the library at 423-7753 if you have any questions.

The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, is hosting a **Dinner with Author** Julie Hyzy, on Friday, October 1st at 6:00 p.m. Join us at the library for a special after hours dining experience. Julie Hyzy, of the White House Chef Mystery Series, starts a new series with, Grace Under Pressure. Imagine you are at Marshfield Manor as we dine and discuss the book with a catered meal. Ms. Hyzy will be autographing your book purchases on the night of the 1st. Tickets for this event cost $20 per person which needs to be paid at time of registration. Stop by the library to reserve your seat for this cozy evening. Contact the Adult Services Department at 708-423-7753 for more information.

Announcements from Evergreen Park

The Fall Tree Planting Program is underway. The tree brochure is available at Village Hall or at our Village www.evergreenparkil.com. You can purchase a tree for your parkway or yard and Don's Landscaping will plant it for you with a one year, one time 100% guarantee. The tree order deadline is September 30th. Call 708-229-8219 for more information.

This is a great time to enjoy our local parks which offer beautiful walking paths, bocci ball, bean bags, sand volleyball, tennis and lots of shady trees.

Save the date for our 4th Annual Hot Rod Classic Car Show on October 1st at Yokich Field, 89th & Kolzie Ave. Call 708-229-8219 to register your car or for sponsorship information.

Home Care For A Loved One

Comfort Keepers
9838 S Roberts Rd.
Palos Hills, IL
708-598-1900

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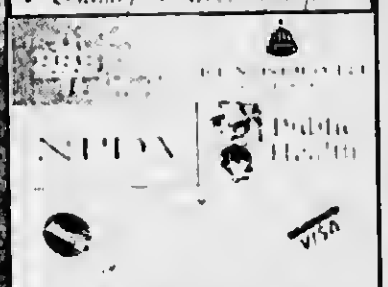
- Laundry ♥ Grooming
- Bathing ♥ Dressing Help



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Cash Bar 5:30pm ~ Dinner 6:30pm
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Jeff Silhan at 773-239-6279 or Jacque Grole at 773-779-2163.
Donations may be mailed to Silhan, 10760 S. Hoyne, Chicago, IL 60643.
Please make checks payable to Musichorale.
Please visit www.musichorale.org.

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Buy 1 Spaghetti or Mostaccioli Dinner w/Garlic Bread
Get 1 FREE
Meatballs or Sausage add $2 each Dinner
Expires September 20, 2010.
Must mention & present coupon when ordering.

Gyros Sandwich w/onion, sauce & tomato $1.99 Limit 2
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Now Serving Hershey's Ice Cream
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Open Registration
(708) 499-1574

FLEMING HEALTH CARE REPEAL UPDATE

Health Care Reform is Paid for by Cuts to Medicare

The enormous health care bill signed into law will be largely paid for by cuts to services many seniors depend on. Here is just a sampling of the Medicare cuts, totaling more than $500 billion, to come:

In 2010:

Medicare will cut reimbursements to inpatient psychiatric hospitals

In 2011:

Medicare cuts to home health agencies begin

Wealthier seniors ($85K-$170K) begin paying higher Part D premiums

Medicare cuts begin to ambulance services, ambulatory surgery centers, diagnostic labs, and durable medical equipment

Seniors are prohibited from purchasing power wheelchairs unless they first rent for 13 months.

New Medicare cuts to long term care hospitals begin.

New Medicare cuts to hospitals and cuts to nursing homes begin (FY12)

Medicare Advantage cuts begin. Participating seniors will face premium increases, benefit cuts, or both.

In 2012:

Medicare reimbursements for dialysis treatments are cut

Medicare cuts to hospice begin

In 2013:

Medicare reimbursements to hospitals that serve low income seniors will be cut.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU: When providers get paid less by Medicare for services seniors depend on, many may be forced to decrease their services or close some of their locations just to make ends meet. This means that seniors may experience a decrease in their access to essential care, which is already a problem for many in rural districts.

The cuts to Medicare Advantage may cause many of these insurance providers to stop offering plans to seniors, forcing seniors back into traditional Medicare

THE DOCTOR'S DIAGNOSIS: Seniors should not have to bear the cost of health care reform. Instead, we need common sense health reform that will lead to quality, affordable health care, without breaking the bank, or cutting services to seniors. We need to repeal the bill.

As this process unfolds, I will continue to work to represent you, bring common sense to this debate, and work to repeal this unpopular law.Sincerely,

JOHN FLEMING, M.D.
Member of Congress

P.S. If you'd like more information, please take a minute to visit my newly redesigned website at www.Fleming.house.gov or follow me on Facebook at www.facebook.com/repjohnfleming or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/repfleming

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Editor's Remarks:

Just recently I have been notified of changes to my medicare supplement.

Even though I pay more money monthly to both Medicare and my supplemental insurance, I have less coverages. My medications were not covered by medicare, therefore not paid by my supplement insurance.

I started to add up my cost factor and found out that it was costing me over $2,500 per year. Is it worth paying this amount per year not knowing if I have 100% coverage as I had before the new health bill was passed.

Maybe I should wait until 2012 when low income people will be able to benefit from the new bill. Many more people will be qualified for coverages with the new health care bill in 2011.

Readers, what do you think about the new health bill? Will we continue to have the coverages medicare so willingly gave us before the ObamaCare Bill kicked in. Help us to understand why this bill is so good for medicare and supplement insured people.

Write to Village View, 1160 S. Michigan Ave. #1306, Chicago, IL 60605 and let us hear from you or vvnews@sbcglobal.net

We do well with usage of energy

Illinoisans consume the 23rd-lowest amount of energy per person nationwide, according to the new website EnergyTrends.org.

EnergyTrends.org is a project of the Lexington Institute, a nonprofit think tank based in Arlington, Virginia.

"Many Americans want to save energy, and even know how to do it, but they frequently don't have access to timely, useful information about how much energy they are using," said Don Soifer, Executive Vice President of the Lexington Institute.

The website uses data from the federal Department of Energy. It tracks vital indicators for energy and electricity use, as well as which fuels (like coal, nuclear or renewable) are used to generate electricity, and ranks states in each category. It also analyzes data from recent years, providing easy to read indicators to show overall trends.

SEPTEMBER 2010 Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Movie & Popcorn "Because I Said So" 1 p.m.	2 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	3 Monthly Birthday Party! 1 p.m.	4
5	6 Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day	Tai Chi 1 p.m.	7	8 Movie & Popcorn "Space Cowboys" 1 p.m.	9 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	10 Let's Play Bingo! 1 p.m.	11
12	13 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	Tai Chi 1 p.m.	14	15 Movie & Popcorn "5 People You Meet In Heaven" 1 p.m.	16 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	17	18 Humana Guidance Center's 2nd Anniversary Celebration! 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
19	20 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	Tai Chi 1 p.m.	21	22 Movie & Popcorn "Happy Accidents" 1 p.m.	23 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	24 Informative Health Discussion "Diabetes" (Guest Speaker) 1 p.m.	25
26	27 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	Tai Chi 1 p.m.	28	29 Movie & Popcorn "Eight Below" 1 p.m.	30 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.		

7945 S. Harlem Ave., Burbank, IL 60459
For more information, please call:
708-430-9504
You are welcome anytime at the Humana Guidance Center — whether you are a Humana member or not.

HUMANA
Guidance when you need it most

beyond ordinary

By: Jerry R. Haymaker

I'm sure most Americans are aware of reports of U.S. citizens that claimed to know about the terror attacks on September 11, 2001 before it happened. I can't speak for anyone else but here is my account of what I knew, who I told and when I knew it.

I had gone over to a friend's house (Bob Ornenburg) to visit. The weather was pleasant so we were in the back lanai discussing the local news relating to Port Charlotte, FL was standing up as a picture appeared before my face. It was as if someone had held up a photo about nine inches in front of my eyes. The picture was as if taken from a distance outside the New York . Trade Center showing the top portion of the building and a large black hole in its side. At first it did not register in my mind what the picture represented. Then information about the 911 attack mentally came to me like a voice speaking in my mind. This is the exact message: Multiple jets would be hijacked simultaneously by terrorist. The Trade Center and the Pentagon would be hit by the planes and one other jet would crash without hitting its target. This would occur in eight days and the U.S. government would allow this to happen.

Every premonition I had ever had would happen the exact way it came to me unless I was able to do something that could change it. I had every confidence that nothing would be done if I were to make a report to the authorities. The problem is that if an unknown person calls to make a report they are joining a large pool of people regarded by agencies like the FBI as unreliable sources and ignored. This is clearly understandable since their budget would quickly be used up if they were to attempt to follow up on all these reports. It might be different if someone had a history of providing reliable, useful intelligence information and had a relationship with someone working at the agency. I know that sounds exactly like the fictional TV show, X files. Not many agents would want to be called Mulder or Skully behind their backs or to their faces for that matter.

I told my friend Bob about the vision and the rest of the information contained in the message. He said it would implicate me if I were to report the attack. "You don't know what they will do to you after they do nothing and find how accurate your report of the attack turns out to be!

Needless to say, Bob does not have much confidence in agencies of the United States . These last few years we have heard reports of suspected terrorist being tortured by water boarding and other methods that resulted in death while in custody. All this confirms what Bob said but ignores all the heroic deeds accomplished by ordinary people that took action in the face of dire consequences and impossible odds of success. Besides, if it took a miracle just to have this information, a miracle or two more could help to make a major difference in the situation. As it turned out, on the morning of the attack I awoke to the knowledge that in an hour the attack would happen and the words "Bomb threat" resonated in my mind.

I saw my next door neighbor the week before the attack. I tried to tell him about it but only got as far as stating that jets would be flown into the Trade Center and he said he hoped not, refusing to listen and walked away!

The Trade Center was getting fifty calls a day reporting a bomb threat so I don't think fifty one would register as significant to prompt an evacuation of the building. Stating my name would be equally useless after all, who was I that they would take it seriously. If I was someone known to them or famous because of accurate past predictions documented and verified, maybe then they would take it seriously.

Three days before the attack happened I still wanted to do something official to mark the day. I wrote a letter to the local police office in Punta Gorda, FL. In the letter I explained that I was a local clairvoyant and would make myself available to them if they wanted my help.

After the attack I went to the FBI and reported what I knew before the attack and why I hadn't reported it. The agent I was speaking with acted like he wanted to attack me. He said that if I knew of any more attacks I should make a report and I stated that I would.

I was upset that this could all happen again with similar results. This prompted me to write a letter to a local TV news station about it all. Days later I had a feeling that I would need to go check on the letter I had written to the local police. I didn't know what good that would do but was ready to go if I had a feeling that it was time to do so.

About three weeks later I was at Edison College library studying for a class I was taking at the school. My reading was interrupted by the distinct feeling that it was time to check on that letter to the police. The college is near the central police office so I grabbed my books, jumped in my car and drove there.

When I was pulling into the parking lot I could see two Wink News cars parked there. Two women were talking near the cars so I walked over to them. I told them my name and that they were there to check on the letter I had sent to the police. They had a shocked look on their faces initially and quickly grabbed for their note-pads to jot down what I was telling them. They explained that the letter I sent was there but the envelope with the date on it had been thrown away. I gave them back ground information to the story and answered any questions they asked.

I didn't see the story on the news but heard about it from some other people that did. That was the first time a news story had been done pertaining to my premonitions. If I had not shown up at the police station parking lot the way I did, I don't think the story would have made the news.

Learn the restaurant business at Moraine Valley seminar

Individuals can hear what it takes to start a restaurant business from experienced entrepreneurs during the "Entrepreneurship in the Restaurant and Hospitality Industry" workshop at Moraine Valley Community College on September 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event will be in the Moraine Business and Conference Center, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The cost to attend is $50 and includes a light breakfast and lunch. Hilary Burkinshaw, executive director of the CenterPoint for Entrepreneurs at Governors State University, and Tim McInery, founder of Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant, will share their personal experiences and lessons learned.

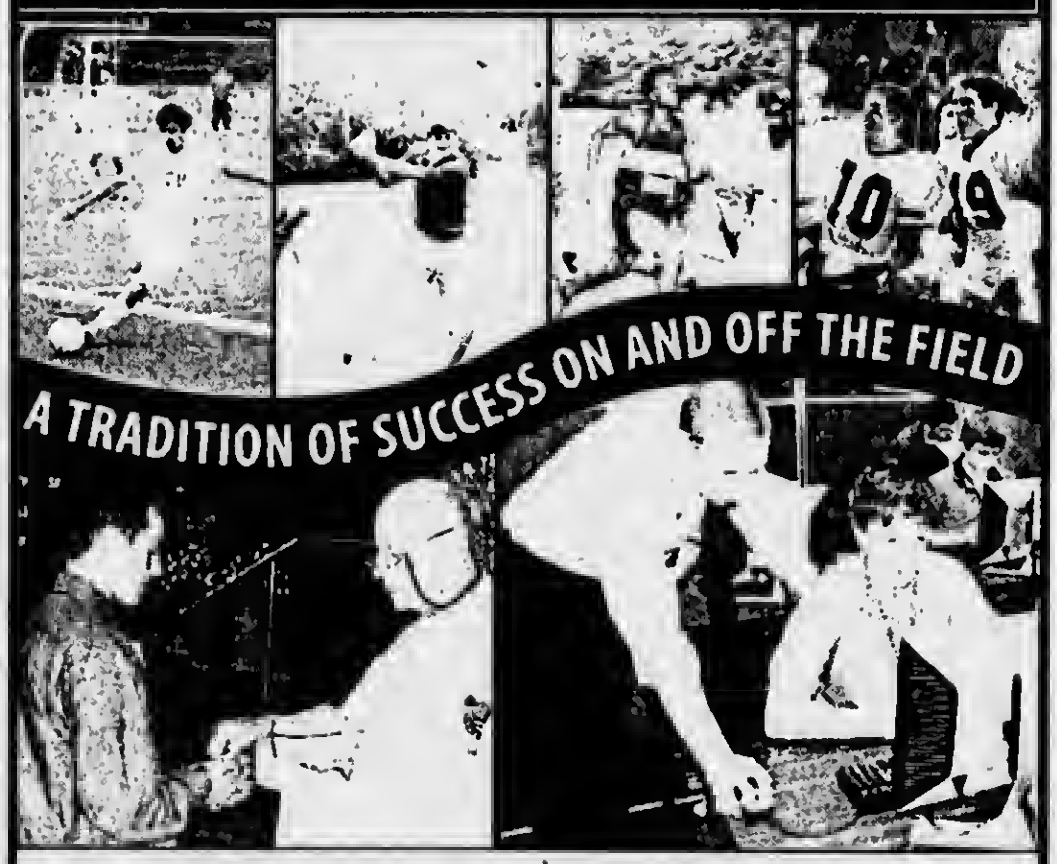
In 20 years of managing Illinois Small Business Development Centers, Burkinshaw has counseled thousands of entrepreneurs, coaching them through the development and expansion of their businesses, helping them improve and finance their enterprises, and seeing their dreams turn into reality.

The CenterPoint for Entrepreneurs serves more than 600 individuals and companies annually and has assisted entrepreneurs with obtaining more than $120 million in financing since 2000. In 1999 she founded the Professional Women's Network and is past chair of the Illinois Entrepreneurship and Small Business Association. Educated in England, where she grew up, she was a senior lecturer in marketing, economics and entrepreneurship and managed the Short Course Unit at South Kent College before coming to the United States in 1990. McInery started out in the hospitality industry at age 11 as a dishwasher and worked his way through the ranks to become a restaurant manager by high school.

This seminar is sponsored by the college's Workforce Development and Community Services department in partnership with The CenterPoint for Entrepreneurs. Register for this noncredit course in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556). Participants also can register online at moraineValley.edu by clicking the Admission Form link under Quick Clicks on the homepage and following the prompts.

For more information call the Moraine Business and Conference Center at (708) 974-5690.

GO MUSTANGS!



OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, November 7 | noon to 3pm
Sunday, December 5 | noon to 2pm

HONORS OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday, November 9 | 6:30pm

For more information, contact
Craig Ferguson, Director of Admissions 773-925-RITA

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Scorched is worth seeing at the Historic Temple Building in Chicago

While taking in a play at the temple you may visit a historical building which houses the 1st Methodist Church. You will also be able get a tour if you call 312-236-4588.

Scorched makes its Chicago debut in a production by Silk Road Theatre Project (SRTP) this fall. Originally written in French by the acclaimed Lebanese French Canadian playwright Wajdi Mouawad, SRTP's English language production, translated by Linda Gaboriau and directed by Dale Heinen, runs October 6 until November 7, 2010, in Pierce Hall at The Historic Chicago Temple Building, 77 W. Washington St., Chicago.

"When I first read Scorched, I felt like I was whisked away to a theatre in ancient Greece that had been retrofitted to twenty first century sensibilities," said SRTP Artistic Director Jamil Khoury.

"Experiencing a massive play unfold before you, full of love, hate, anger, rage, the vicissitudes of life and nation, seen through the prism of multigenerational families, is a cherished affair in my line of work. I had heard of playwright Wajdi Mouawad, celebrated in French language theatre circles as a treasure trove of ingenuity, but it wasn't until encountering his work first hand, so beautifully translated by Linda Gaboriau, that I could even begin to appreciate the accolades.

Scorched has been received worldwide as a landmark piece of theatre. We believe Chicago is in for something truly extraordinary."

"Scorched is a beguiling mixture of poetry, brutality, laughter and silence, set against the backdrop of one of history's most enduring tragedies, the Lebanese civil war," said director Dale Heinen. "Within one family, the play juxtaposes East and West, love and hate, the past and the present. I'm excited to be directing this exquisite and challenging play, which crosses continents and decades, seamlessly shifting location and time in one fluid space, and look forward to sharing the unique voice of Wajdi Mouawad with Chicago audiences."

In anticipation of the premier, Silk Road Theatre Project (SRTP) together with Act One Studios will offer two three-session seminars, one to be taught in English and the other in French, in September of this year. Led by professionals from Act One Studios, the courses will provide in depth explorations of Mouawad's text.

The seminars will be held on three consecutive Mondays, September 13, 20, and 27, 2010, from 6:30pm to 9:00pm, in Pierce Hall at The Historic Chicago Temple Building, 77 W. Washington St., Chicago. The cost is $60. Patrons can choose to take the course in either French or English, and can purchase a discounted ticket to Scorched for an additional $20. Registration is through the SRTP boxoffice, boxoffice@srtp.org.

Godspell a must see

by Alan Bresloff

Making a musical, "rock" or otherwise using the Bible as your source is not an easy task for a writer, either for the book or the lyrics. Now, Provision Theater Company, under the skillful leadership of Timothy Gregory is doing "Godspell" with a book by John-Michael Tebelak and music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz.

In its day, it was a groundbreaking "Rock" musical that tells the story of the Gospel of St. Matthew and shares the messages of tolerance, kindness and love. The cast of players is energetic and talented and, they give it 100%, plus The score has some lovely songs, with "Day by Day" the most memorable.

Ineeng Park's set is stupendous allowing for many levels and crates that are used well by Director Gregory.

The play begins with a group of young people, caught in a rainstorm, who take refuge in an old warehouse, a somewhat abandoned warehouse with many crates filled with various items that serve as the props for the rest of the show. One of the items found is a bible, and upon opening it and blowing away the dust, John The Baptist, (Justin Berkobien) appears and brings in Jesus (a strong performance by Syler Thomas). For the next two hours, Jesus and his "new" followers take on many characters as we are told of the stories that are contained within the Gospel of St. Matthew. Through the story we learn many great lessons that were the "word" of Jesus, many set to music.

The young cast is one of great energy and playfulness, even with the audience as they communicate directly with them on several occassions. This is truly an ensemble piece and they are a bundle of energy and talent. The very sexy Tiffany Yvonne Coe, the funny Greg Foster, Maxwell Burnham, the adorable Sarah Grant, Frederick Harris, the delightful Richelle Meiss, The hysterical Kevin O'Brien, Jennifer Oakley, and Amy Steele- all very talented.

Provision Theater Company is devoted to producing works of hope, reconciliation and redemption. Works that challenge us to explore a life of meaning and purpose. "Godspell" certainly does this, and yet it does so without offending any one's religious beliefs. If you have never seen "Godspell", this is a production worth seeing and at a very affordable price.

"Godspell" will continue at The Provision Theater located at 1001 West Roosevelt Road (on the campus of the University of Illinois- Chicago campus) through September 26th with performances on: Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Sundays at 3 p.m.

Tickets are only $25-$28 and there is free parking. To order your seats call 1-866-811-4111 or visit www.provisiontheater.org

Theatre Previews for the fall

ARED ORCHID THEATRE:

Box Office: (312) 943-8722 or www.ovationtix.com
Ticket prices: Previews: $15; Regular run: $25
Thurs. $30 Fri-Sun

The Midwest Premiere of Louis Slotin Sonata
By Paul Mullin
Directed by Ensemble Member Karen Kessler
Previews: September 10-12, 2010
Regular Run: through October 24, 2010

Will our innate curiosity and confidence kill us or lead us to greater awakenings? At 3:20 PM on Tuesday, May 21, 1946 Louis Slotin's hand slipped a small, practically insignificant blunder, except that Slotin was the chief bomb builder at Los Alamos, and at that fateful moment he held in his hands a plutonium bomb core named "Rufus." With a structure inspired by classical music's sonata allegro form, *Louis Slotin Sonata* traces the true story of a brilliant scientist's last nine days, as his body and mind gradually succumb to the chaos wrecked by radiation.

CHICAGO SHAKESPEARE THEATER

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Romeo and Juliet
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Gale Edwards
Featuring Jeff Liffico, Joy Farmer Clary, Ora Jones, Brendan Marshall-Rashid, Judy Blue, Steve Haggard, Brandon Ford, David Lively, Zach Appelman, Kenn E. Head, John Judd, Tom McElroy, Lily Mojekwu, Ariel Shafir, Scott Westerman, James Elly, Adam Gitkin, Jonathan Hicks, Ben Hoth, Jude Roch and Marvin Quijada.
Previews, September 15-21, 2010 Regular Run: through November 29, 2010

Pure and hot, passionate and true – the feverish intensity of youth explodes in the most celebrated love story of all time. Passion stirs the blood of young lovers and feuding families, hurling their fates to destiny, and captivating an audience left breathless.

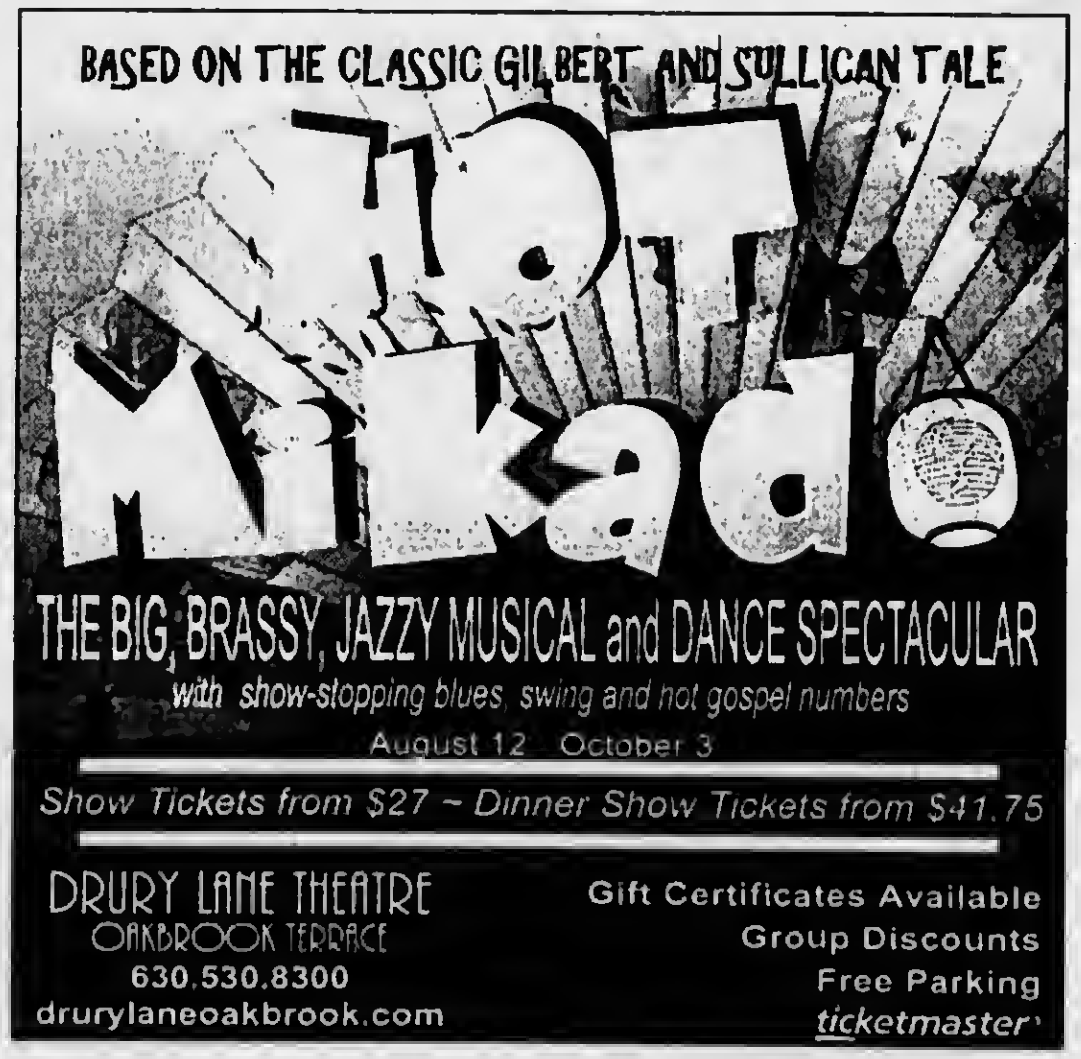
World renowned Australian director Gale Edwards, whose work has been seen at the Royal Shakespeare Company and across America, makes her CST debut with a startling landmark production.

COURT THEATRE

Box Office: (773) 753-4472; www.CourtTheatre.org
Tickets: Previews: $32 to $40; Regular run: $38 to $56

The Comedy of Errors
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Sean Graney
Featuring Kurt Ehrmann, Alex Goodrich, Elizabeth Ledo, Erik Hellman, Stacy Stolz, and Steve Wilson
Previews: September 16-24, 2010
Regular Run: through October 17, 2010

Innovative director Sean Graney (The Hypocrites) re-imagines Shakespeare's funniest farce about mistaken identity, mental illness, and xenophobia. The story of two sets of twins separated at birth, The Comedy of Errors will be a theatrical event full of energetic slapstick and lyrical comedy, performed by six virtuosic actors.



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By Paul Cook

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Health Awareness

Questions For Your Doctor

(NAPSA)-If you or someone you care about is among the 600,000 U.S. women who have a hysterectomy this year, there's something you may want to consider.

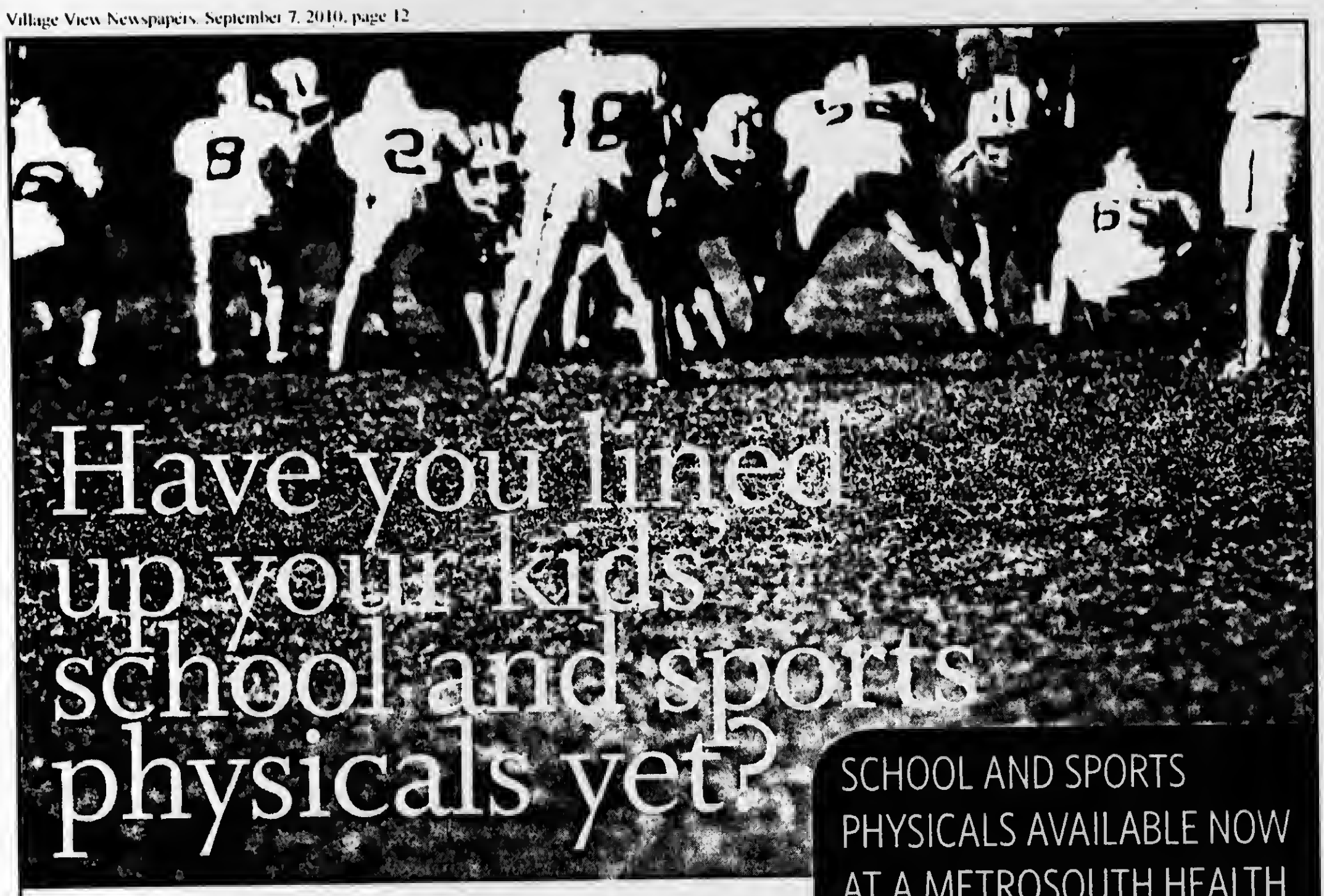
Most of those surgeries are still performed via open abdominal incisions, meaning longer recoveries and higher risks of complications. Fortunately, less invasive surgical options such as laparoscopy are available.

In response, one woman created Give Me a Second to encourage women to get second opinions before having a hysterectomy or any surgery.

"Second opinions do three important things," says Kathy Kelley, founder of HysterSisters, an online community for women facing hysterectomy, and creator of Give Me a Second. "With a second opinion, a woman may get new information about other treatments, she may hear a new perspective or she may get peace of mind."

Learn more at http://giveme asecond.com.

Two important questions when faced with surgery are "Is there an alternative to surgery?" and "What minimally invasive techniques are available?"



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Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 17 | September 7, 2010

Police Department presents Officer Michael Klappauf with life saving award

The Oak Forest Police Department presented Officer Michael Klappauf with a life saving award at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, August 24 for performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on a resident and, ultimately, saving her life on July 28.

"Michael didn't hesitate to put his CPR training into action," said Police Chief Greg Anderson. "Because of his quick response, the resident survived." Upon arriving at the scene, Klappauf was informed that a 40-year old, female resident had overdosed and was having a seizure. Immediately, Klappauf began administering CPR until the paramedics arrived and began treating the woman. By the time she was transported to the hospital, the victim had a pulse and was in better condition.

"Mike displayed great care and concern for life that day," Anderson added. "He's a valuable member of our department and I'm proud to honor him with this award."

Fall program registration

The Tinley Park-Park District registration for all fall programs and events is now in progress. Residents and nonresidents may register on-line, in person, or by mailing in their registration. The Rec Center is open Monday-Friday from 7:00 am-9:00 pm; Saturday from 8:00 am-4:00 pm; and Sunday from 8:00 am-3:00. On-line registration is the quickest, easiest and most convenient method of program registration. A user name and password is required and may be obtained by calling the Park District at (708) 342-4200.

The lineup for this fall includes lots of exciting new programs, trips, health and fitness classes, and special events for all ages. For more information contact the Park District at 708/342-4200.

Orland Township to sponsor dance lessons

Ladies and gentlemen c'mon and kick up your heels and have some fun while Dance Instructor, Dee Ulrich, teaches you the art of line dancing.

Orland Township will be offering this four week class starting Monday, September 13, 2010 and ending Monday, October 4, 2010.

Classes will be held in the Orland Township Activity Center, 14807 So. Ravinia, Orland Park, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the above dates.

Registration is necessary and can be done at the Orland Township Office, 14807 So. Ravinia, Orland Park. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m.

Registration fee is $20.00 for residents; $25.00 for nonresident. For more information, contact Kathy Kenyeri, Senior Services Coordinator, at (708) 403-4222.

Oak Forest Police Department receives nearly $35,000 to install computers in squads

The Oak Forest Police Department has received $34,170 from the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) to install ruggedized computers, which are designed to reliably operate in harsh usage environments and conditions, in five patrol cars. The state of the art computers allow officers to access state and national crime file and intelligence databases and communicate digitally with other law enforcement agencies statewide.

"We are extremely fortunate to have been awarded this grant," said Oak Forest Police Chief Greg Anderson. "The computers will increase efficiency and effectiveness as well as enhance officer safety and communication."

As part of the grant program, ILEAS has provided $3,075,300 to 205 law enforcement agencies, both police and sheriffs, throughout the state of Illinois for 450 ruggedized squad car computers.

The grant funds, which came from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, were distributed through the Illinois Terrorism Task Force. In today's economic environment, the $6,834 cost of each of these devises outside the financial means of many agencies.

ILEAS is an intergovernmental coalition representing more than 900 local law enforcement agencies and more than 95 percent of all sworn officers in the state of Illinois. ILEAS coordinates significant requests for mutual aid, provides grants and coordinates other law enforcement related programs.

The mission of ILEAS is to meet the needs of law enforcement throughout the state of Illinois in matters of mutual aid, emergency response and the combining of resources for public safety.

For more information, please visit www.ileas.org, www.ready.illinois.gov/ttf/ or call 217-328-3800.

Orland Park Arts Commission presents Jazz Singer Ava Logan

The Orland Park Arts Commission will host a jazz concert with Ava Logan on Sunday, September 26, at the Orland Park Cultural Arts Center, 14760 Park Lane.

Ava Logan is an award winning singer/actress from Washington, D.C. who now lives in the Chicago area. A graduate of Yale and the University of Pennsylvania, Logan is a veterinarian by day and a jazz singer at night. The classically trained vocalist has performed jazz, pop and rhythm and blues in the United States and abroad.

"We are very excited to have Ava Logan perform at the village's Cultural Arts Center," said Trustee Kathy Fenton, chair of the village's Community Outreach and Special Events Committee. "It's wonderful that the Arts Commission is again offering outstanding musical entertainment at a reasonable cost, close to home," she added.

Logan has appeared at the Chicago Cultural Center, Millennium Park, Maxim's for the City of Chicago, Drury Lane Theater and at a number of jazz venues across the country. She currently performs at Pete Miller's Jazz Lounge in Wheeling, at Café Pyrenees Restaurant in Libertyville and at 94 West in Orland Park. Logan released her first major CD, So Many Stars! in 2008.

Logan will perform on September 26 from 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m., after which refreshments will be served until 4:30 p.m. Tickets are $20 per person and may be purchased at the cashier's office at the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. The cashier's office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Only 150 tickets will be sold and a limited number of tickets may be available at the door.

The Arts Commission will host its Dark Shadows Film Festival on Saturday, October 23 from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Admission is free.

"The Dark Shadows event is sponsored Orland Park's own MPI Media Group," Fenton noted. "This promises to be a great fest as attendees are invited to dress as characters from the 'Dark Shadows' television series," she added.

On Friday, December 3, the Arts Commission is sponsoring a holiday concert featuring Orland Park native and baritone Jonathan Beyer, mezzo-soprano Katherine Drago and pianist Stephen Hargreaves. Tickets are $15.00 each and may be purchased at the Village Hall.

For more information, call 708/403-6140.

Village View

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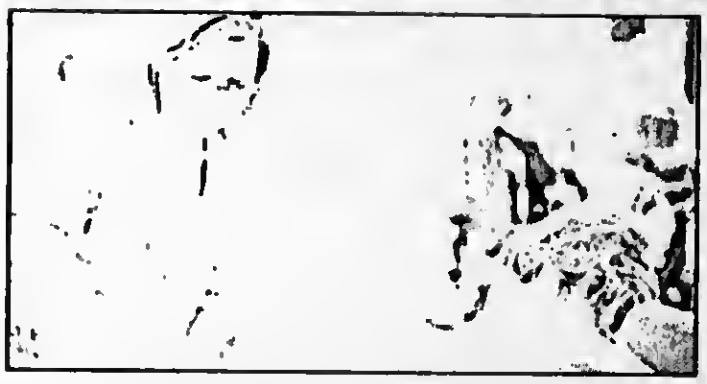
SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 17 | September 7, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights



Iwona Ligeska enjoys helping individuals with disabilities as she prepares for a career in Recreation Therapy.

Adults Find Comfortable Environment at Moraine Valley

"I don't feel any limitations. There are people who are much older than me and much younger," says **Iwona Ligeska**. "Everyone learns from each other." Like many Moraine Valley adult students, Iwona came here for a career change. After emigrating from Poland 12 years ago, she has worked as a medical interpreter in a hospital. But her job entails a long commute and, as a mother of three young children, she decided she needed a change. She is now studying recreation therapy and is loving it. "It's very convenient because they offer classes at many different times. I can take classes around my work schedule," she says. Iwona believes adult students will feel completely comfortable at the college. "The academic advisors and instructors are so caring and encouraging," she says.

Candace Evans also decided to return to school as an adult and, as a veteran, she began looking for colleges where she could apply using the GI Bill. "I came in and talked to someone in the Financial Aid Office. She was so helpful and answered all of my questions," Candace says. She is now on her way to earning an associate degree and plans to go on for a bachelor's degree in elementary education. "It's been great. I can go to class two days a week, and be home with my daughter the other days," says Candace. "I also think it's fantastic that Moraine Valley has the Children's Learning Center, so people can continue their education if they have kids." Candace feels that the college welcomes veterans and states, "They acknowledge that vets sometimes have special needs, and they are making an effort to include us by offering things like the Combat to College Student Veterans' Association." Candace likes that Moraine Valley provides support to help all students succeed. "The people in the Writing Center and the tutoring center are wonderful. No matter what department you work with, everyone is so nice," she says.

Some adult students pursue interests for their own personal development and find that Moraine Valley provides that opportunity. A few years into his retirement, **Jim Welsh** decided to take classes in areas that interested him, such as history and political science. When he walked into his first class, he felt a bit out of place among the younger students, but his instructor encouraged him to stay, and Jim agreed. Since then, he has taken a class each semester since he started in 1999. When he began, he audited classes, but later decided he wanted to challenge himself by taking them for a grade. He has earned an "A" in each class since. "Coming here has allowed me to grow and learn new things," he says. Jim enjoys the friendly atmosphere at the college. "You feel welcome. Everyone from the cashiers in Cafe Moraine to Dr. Crawley will say hello. The faculty and staff are great," he says. Jim believes the best thing about Moraine Valley is that it offers educational opportunities to people of all ages. "I just love the place!" he says.

Adult Information Sessions If you're considering returning to college as an adult student, discover how easy it is to get started at an Adult Information Session.

All sessions are held on Wednesdays from 6–7 p.m. in Building S, Room S117A. Call (708) 974-5355 or visit morainevalley.edu/AdultSuccess.

Lupus Foundation announces walk

Registration Open for 2010 Downtown Chicago and Western Suburbs Walk for Lupus Now Events August 17, 2010.

The Lupus Foundation of America, Illinois Chapter (LFAI) announces that registration is open for their 2010 Downtown Chicago and Western Suburbs Walk for Lupus Now Events.

The Downtown Chicago Walk will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2010 at Grant Park, Columbus and Balbo.

Registration starts at 10:30 am and the walk steps off at 11:30 am. The Western Suburbs Walk will be held on Sunday, October 3, 2010 at Naperville River Walk, Naperville, IL.

Registration starts at 9:00 am and the walk steps off at 10:00 am. Walkers can choose from 1 or 3 mile routes for both walks. The family friendly events include activities for children, entertainment and a raffle.

Advance registration is $25, on site $30, children 12 and under $10. Register online at www.2010lupuswalk.kintera.org or call the LFAI office at 312-542-0002 for a brochure.

For more information, please contact Mary Dollear at 312-542-0002 or email Mary@lupusil.org. Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that causes inflammation and tissue damage to virtually every organ system in the body approximately 65,000 Illinois residents struggle with lupus every day; 90 percent of them are women. Unfortunately, most Americans know little or nothing about lupus or its telltale symptoms. MEDIA CONTACT: Mary Dollear, LFAI, (312) 542-0002, mary@lupusil.org.

Enjoy your colorful and receive more calls by advertising in Village View. Call 312-624-8996 and get results!

The Southwest Symphony Orchestra present Musical Mischief

On Sunday, October 3, 2010 the Southwest Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of David L. Crane, presents their 2010-2011 season opener Musical Mischief. This concert has two featured soloists, Dave Johnston on the bagpipes playing Mozart and Nora the Piano Cat in the Chicago premiere of CAlcerto!

Dave Johnston started learning bagpipes in 1982 in Glasgow, Scotland through a youth organization called the Boy's Brigade. He remained with the organization and the adult membership section of the Williamwood Pipe Band until he emigration to the U.S. in September 2005. He currently instructs and assists the Chicago Fire Department Pipes & Drums, the Pipes & Drums of the Chicago Police Department, the Naperville Highland Guard, Bolingbrook Fire Department and Carol Stream Fire Department. He has performed with the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, the Chieftains and the West Suburban Concert Band among others. He is currently working on a program combining bagpipes and Chinchougan Dave will be joining the SSO on Mozart's Sinfonia in D "Bauernhochzeit".

Nora the Piano Cat was adopted by Betsy and Burnell from a shelter in Cherry Hill, NJ. Her birth mother was a humble stray cat. Her new home was full of art and musical instruments. Absent a year after her adoption, Nora jumped on the piano bench and put her paws on the keys and made music, just like Betsy's students. She began to play on a daily basis. Her favorite was the Yamaha piano, high notes rather than low notes, and she found the black keys a lot of fun. She began to play duets with Betsy's students. Soon a YouTube video was created and posted and Nora was a star! Mmangas Precaitis, a highly esteemed Lithuanian conductor saw a copy of Nora's video. He was so enamored with it he decided to compose an orchestral score to go with it even though he had never composed before.

The result was CAlcerto. The SSO will be performing the Chicago premiere of this piece, accompanying Nora's video.

The concert is located at Trinity Christian College's Ozinga Auditorium, 6601 West College Drive, Palos Heights.

Concert begins at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday October 3, 2010.

Ticket prices are $5.00 for students, $15.00 to $20.00 for seniors, adults $20.00 to $24.00, children under 12 are free. Visit southwestsymphony.com or call 708.802.0686.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 17 | September 7, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Blue Island reminds readers about special events

Kerr Middle School Rededication Students, families and community members are invited to the grand reopening of the newly restructured middle school. The rededication will feature food, fun, music, and words of wisdom from guest speakers. When: Thursday, Sept. 9, 5:00 p.m. Where: Kerr Middle School, 12915 S. Maple Ave., 708.385.5959

Texas Hold 'Em Tournament The Rotary Club Of Blue Island - Crestwood presents multi-table tournaments. Sit n go tournaments and cash games. For preregistration go to www.maineventcharitygames.com. When: Friday, September 10, 2010, 1:00 p.m. 2:00 a.m. Where: Golden Bear Restaurant, 12001 S. Cicero Ave.

Alsip District 130 9th Annual Golf Outing Registration begins at 3 p.m. and play will begin with a shotgun start at 4 p.m. The afternoon will conclude with a dinner at 7:00 provided by the Rail Grill and Catering by Cathie. Register at www.district130.org or call Lenore Guyton at 708-385-6800, ext. 102. When: Friday, Sept. 17. $30/$60 Where: Meadows Golf Club, 2802 W. 123rd St.

Blue Island Blue Island Historical Society 27th House Walk Tour Residents and visitors will enjoy a unique opportunity to walk through five of the City's finest historic homes. Advance reservations recommended. Call 708-371-8546 or BIhistoricalsociety.com. When: Sunday, September 19, 2010. $15/$25 Where: Blue Island Historical Society (Albee House), 13018 S. Maple Ave.

School District 130 has announced the following dates and times for each school's Open House:

·**Greenwood**, 12418 S. Highland Ave. in Blue Island, Sept. 8 from 6:30-7:30 pm.

·**Paul Revere Intermediate**, 12331 S. Gregory in Blue Island, Sept. 8 from 6:30-7:30 pm.

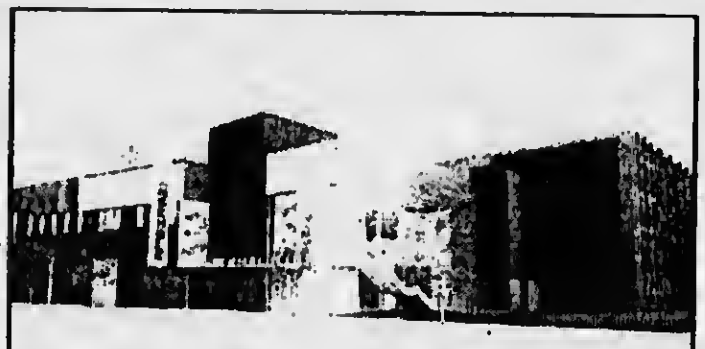
·**Nathan Hale Middle**, 5220 W. 135th St. in Crestwood, Sept. 8 from 6:30-7:30 pm.

Nathan Hale Pre-K (5318 W. 135th Street in Crestwood); **Nathan Hale Primary** (5324 W. 135th St. in Crestwood) and **Nathan Hale Intermediate** (5312 W. 135th St. in Crestwood), Sept. 9 from 6-7 pm.

·**Kerr Middle**, 12915 Maple Ave. in Blue Island, Sept. 9 from 6-7 pm.

·**Paul Revere Primary**, 2300 W. 123rd Place in Blue Island. August 25: Kindergarten Parent Meeting (8:30-9:30 am). Sept. 1: First Grade Parent Information Night (6 pm) and Second Grade Parent Information Night (7 pm). Sept. 7: Third Grade Parent Information Night (6 pm)

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip, Blue Island, Crestwood and Robbins.



Black Ensemble Theater to break ground on new $16 Millions building

Black Ensemble Theater to break ground on new $16 Millions building

The Black Ensemble Theater will mark the groundbreaking of its new $16 million performance arts and cultural facility, the Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center, at 4440 N. Clark Street, Sept. 10, at 2 p.m.

The ceremony, which is open to the public, will feature performances from popular Black Ensemble productions and include remarks from founder and executive director Jackie Taylor. Invited guests include: Governor Pat Quinn, Mayor Richard M. Daley, and Alderman Eugene Schulter. Actor Harry Lennix will chair the ceremony.

"This is an exciting time in our history, as a new building will help to facilitate the resurgence of the theater as an authentic space where a great people can exist and thrive with autonomy while tearing down barriers and building bridges through story-telling," Taylor said. "Our Board of Directors and capital campaign committee have been diligent in raising more than 80 percent of the funds needed to build the Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center and we look forward to working with our patrons, community leaders and supporters to secure the $3 million needed to complete this important project."

Chicago native Taylor founded the Black Ensemble Theater in 1976 with a mission to eradicate racism, merging her roles as actress and educator to build awareness and foster greater understanding of the African-American contribution to the cultural fabric of American history through theater. This charge is realized through outstanding, award winning productions that attract highly diverse racial audiences as well as effective educational outreach programming that reaches more than 10,000 youth each year.

"For years, the Black Ensemble Theatre has provided artistic programming and educational outreach to help better the lives of African American Youth," **Governor Pat Quinn** said. "The new Center will provide yet another source of activities – such as critical afterschool programs – to motivate children and teens in a positive direction."

For the past 24 years, the Black Ensemble Theater has been headquartered in Chicago's diverse Uptown community at the Uptown Center Hull House on North Beacon Street. As the theater thrived, receiving increased national acclaim and a growing fan base worldwide, a need for a stand alone, singularly affiliated space emerged. At its new location, the Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center will be positioned to accommodate larger scale productions, bigger audiences and a wider range of programming, and it is expected to increase the economic growth of the community, attracting more businesses, patrons and institutions to the area.

"I would like to congratulate Jackie Taylor and the Black Ensemble Theater on the ground breaking of their new facilities. For more than 30 years, the Black Ensemble Theater group has been a major contributor to Chicago's theater community and is known nationwide for their stage productions that highlight African American culture. This new expanded facility will allow the group to reach even further artistic heights while maintaining its place as a vehicle for all patrons of the arts to appreciate, understand and enjoy the African American experience," said **Mayor Richard M. Daley**.

The new facility will include amenities such as:

·300-seat main stage theater (double the capacity of the current venue)

·150-seat stage to serve niche audiences and smaller-scale productions

·Classroom space that can be used by the community

·Rehearsal hall and dance studio that will feature scene, costume and wardrobe rooms

·Seven (7) dressing rooms

·Work space for musicians

·Expanded front lobby space with two concession areas

·Indoor parking garage

John Morris Architects/Planners, a renowned architect in the theater community, designed the Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center. Morris has led or been a part of design teams for high caliber performance art buildings such as the Steppenwolf Theatre Company; Raven Theatre; Old Town School of Folk Music; Northlight Theatre; Lookingglass Theatre Company; and Beverly Arts Center.

Said John Morris, "The new Center will provide an intimate, club like venue with the acoustical 'chops' to handle the high energy, R&B production numbers that accompany Black Ensemble's captivating work. The studio caliber acoustics, perfect sight-lines and full production facilities will set them apart from other venues."

The Black Ensemble Theater has been described as a local cornerstone, a national treasure and an international success.

The Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center will mark Black American History within the Theatre world. For more information on the Black Ensemble Theater or the new Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center, please visit www.blackensembletheater.org or call Jackie Taylor at 773-769-1540.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 6 | September 21, 2010

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Village of Justice adopts new seal as preparations begin to celebrate centennial anniversary

Welcome to the Village of Jnstice's best read site for the most complete news and information on our great community.

The Village of Justice at its committee meeting last week agreed to approve the design for a new village seal as the village as a part of its plans to celebrate its Centennial anniversary.

Justice was founded as a village on Oct. 17, 1911. It will celebrate it's Centennial Anniversary beginning in 2011 as the hundred year anniversary approaches on Oct. 17, 2011.

Mayor Kris Wasowiez said, "We used to have a seal and we wanted to replace it with something new. We have an official logo which is the lady with the scales. But with the coming centennial we thought we should have a new one. We are planning to do a book about the village. We have a Centennial Committee to develop new programs and celebrations for our village next year."

Trustee Kinga Bartoszek who helped complete the design of the seal said they used the seal of the State of Illinois as a base and made some changes, using some local designs such as incorporating an image of the village's veteran's memorial which is the center piece of the village's newly designed and expansive memorial to the men and women who served and sacrificed for this country.

"I feel this new seal design gives our village a sense of pride as we move forward. The Centennial is important and symbolizes not only our community moving into its second hundred years but also movement forward." Bartoszek said.

Bartoszek emphasized at the meeting that there is no cost to designing the new seal or in phasing it in over the next few months.

The new seal also acknowledges the village's centennial celebrations in its design. The new seal was approved at the Monday, Sept. 13 Village Board meeting.

Evergreen Park announces special days

September 22, Swing'n Sugar Squares of EP invite you to enjoy two free nights of square dance lessons for beginners at 7:30pm at Central Jr. High, 95th & Spaulding. Light refreshments will be served. Call 229-3373 for more information. Wed. Sept. 29th is second free class.

Thurs. - September 23rd - MHR 5k Raider Run will take place at 6:00pm. This event is open to all and will take place at 96th & Millard. Both runners and walkers are welcome Register www.mhraa.com.

Farmer's Market continues at Yukich Field, 89th & Kedzie Ave. from 7am-1pm. Lots of fresh vegetables, fruit, flowers and more.

Fri. - September 24th - Queen of Martyrs Fest begins and runs through Sunday the 26th. Carnival, Live Entertainment, Raffles, Food Court, Beer Garden and much more. Located 102nd and Central Park., call 423-8110 for details.

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Village of Oak Lawn announces Electronic Waste Recycling Facility

"Think Green, Live Green" - VOL Green Team

The Village of Oak Lawn will have an electronic waste recycling drop off facility starting October 9th, 2010. It will be the first of its kind in southern Cook County announced Village Trustee Alex Olejniczak who chairs the community's Green Team.

The Village of Oak Lawn was awarded an Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) 2010 Electronic Recycling Grant in the amount of $20,744. The grant allows for the Village to set up a facility to collect electronic waste on a more regular basis.

"The residents of Oak Lawn have been asking about various recycling opportunities," stated Mayor Heilmann. The Village hosted the first electronic waste collection event in January of 2009 as a result of this interest. The Village has hosted a total of five (5) Electronic Waste Collection events since, where over 164,000 lbs (or 82 tons) of electronics were collected, recycled, refurbished and diverted from the landfill. That is the equivalent of 18 adult elephants - assuming an elephant is 4.6 tons!

The Village of Oak Lawn Green Team was started in 2008 and is chaired by Trustee Olejniczak.

"Diverting waste from our landfills, reducing our carbon footprint, and saving money are all green initiatives of the Oak Lawn Green Team," stated Olejniczak. "We look for the lowest hanging fruit in tackling our next green project. Electronics was a good fit." Over 1500 vehicles participated in past electronic waste collection events. Therefore an average of about 107 pounds per vehicle was saved from the landfill.

Based on the success and interest in the one day events, the Village of Oak Lawn applied for financial assistance to provide greater opportunities for electronic recycling for Oak Lawn residents.

As a result, the Village has set up a drop off facility that is available multiple days of the month.

Residents don't have to wait months to unload their unused, unwanted, or broken electronics.

The electronic drop off facility, located at the Oak Lawn Public Works Garage at 5532 98th St., will open and operate on Saturday, October 9th from 10:00 am - Noon.

The facility will accept approved items during posted hours of operation only. Those hours are:

The second Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to Noon.

Weekdays: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

For a list of accepted items please visit Village's website. Items cannot be dropped off outside of posted hours.

Only residential items can be accepted. And all items must be unloaded by the participant.

Individuals who need assistance unloading or have electronics from a commercial organization are invited to attend one of the 2011 One Day Recycling Collection Events (Jan 8th & June 11th).

For questions about the Oak Lawn Electronic Waste Drop Off facility, the two scheduled 2011 Recycling Collection Events or the Green Team, please visit the Village's website for more information, www.oaklawn-il.gov. You may also call the Village at (708) 636-4400 about specific questions regarding the electronics recycling.

For questions about the Green Team, please contact Trustee Alex Olejniczak at aolejniczak@oaklawn-il.gov, 708-419-7002. "Think Green, Live Green"

Lions Run in Hickory Hills

Hickory Hills Lions Club to host the first annual "Roar and Run for Fun" 5k Run/Walk race. The race is going to be held on Saturday, October 23rd at 9:00 AM. The start/finish line will be at Hickory Hills City Hall, 8652 W. 95th Street.

For more information about the race: WWW.e-clubhouse.org/sites/HickoryHills/index.php, signmeup.com72114, to signup in person you can register at Vision of Touch, 7667 W. 95th Street, Suite 3E lower, Hickory Hills.

If you would like to volunteer or become a sponsor please call Vince Uzzardo 708-430-2210 or hickoryhillslions@gmail.com.

Proceeds from the race will help the Hickory Hills Lions Club in their mission to provide programs and assistance to aid people who are blind or visually impaired.

Village View introduces our new reporter

Village View News papers would like to introduce our new Freelance Reporter, Ronald Ayers, who will be attending the Village Board Meetings in Oak Forest, Tinley Park, Orland Park, Blue Island, Midlothian, Crestwood and Alsip.

Ron was a former Newspaper reporter for the Harvey Star-Tribune 1972-1982, former Publisher/Editor of the Aegis Cronicle Chatham in Chicago 1990-1995. He now has a monthly online and print magazine business, he also published a mystery novel in 1975 and is currently working on another novel.

As a Blue Island resident married to Anne, Ron, although retired likes to stay busy. He stated, "I fell in love with the written word when I had to write short stories in high school". Since then he hasn't stopped writing.

Ron is on our team now. Look for his report on the above mentioned meetings now and in the future.

Publisher's Pen

Recently overheard at an Italian American Women's Club meeting in Evergreen Park, Sister Mary Ventura, ELS instructor at St. Bernadette School celebrated her 65th year as a Springfield Dominican nun on Labor Day, September 6, 2010. Commented by Sister Mary, "I am still laboring for the love of God and the children and adults I am teaching and helping."

On September 14, Marijo Doody, cousin to Elizabeth Doody Gorman, Cook County Commissioner, celebrated her birthday at the Italian American Women's Club.

An Evergreen Park Couple celebrated their 36th Anniversary on September 14, 2010. They are the lovely Jean and Mark Capuzzo.

Michael Mondavi and Barry Prescott, Director of Corporate Beverage at Hyatt Hotels & Resorts.

The Hyatt Hotel East on Wacker Drive in Chicago had a reception for the finalist Canvas Artist Series. Guests were given the opportunity to meet Michael Mondavi and to vote the best art design for the Mondavi Wines. The artist of the winning entry for each Canvas Wine varietal will win a $5,000 scholarship plus the opportunity to have art featured on a special bottling of Canvas Wines.

Filing period for school board candidates

An information packet regarding the April 5, 2011 School Board Election in Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124 is available in the Administrative Office at 9400 South Sawyer beginning September 20, 2010. Office hours are Monday – Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Board Candidates interested in running in the 2011 election should download a copy of the Candidate's Guide 2011. This Guide includes instructions and necessary paperwork for filing. The first day to circulate petition papers is September 21, 2010, however, the Illinois State Board of Elections will not have the Candidate's Guide 2011 available on their website until September 24, 2010. The State Board of Elections can be reached as follows:

State Board of Elections
James R. Thompson Center,
Suite 14-100
Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone 312/814-6440
www.elections.state.il.us/

A meeting with Dr. Cody, Superintendent, to discuss the duties and responsibilities of a School Board Member will be held on December 7 at 6:30 p.m. in the District Office. Please contact Dr. Cody at 708/423-0950 if you plan on attending.

A school board candidates nominating papers must be filed in the Administrative Office no earlier than 8:00 a.m. on December 13, 2010 and no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 20, 2010. Candidates' names will appear on the election ballot in the order in which their nominating papers are received in the Administrative Office.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnews@sbcglobal.net

Owner Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnews@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

Lipinski Introduces Resolution Honoring National POW/MIA Recognition Day

Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-3) introduced H. Res. 1630, which calls on all Americans to honor National POW/MIA Recognition Day and expresses the nation's gratitude to the tens of thousands of service members who endured unimaginable privation as prisoners of war or who served and sacrificed in defense of our freedom but tragically never returned from the battlefield.

"Each National POW/MIA Recognition Day, America renews its vow to leave no service member behind," Congressman Lipinski said. "So long as members of our Armed Forces remain unaccounted for, we must expend every effort to bring them home to the country in whose defense they fought and sacrificed. This is a solemn and unbreakable promise, upon which our men and women in uniform depend. In fulfilling it, we pay tribute to their extraordinary courage, patriotism, and fortitude. I hope that this resolution will increase awareness of the importance of honoring our prisoners of war and our missing troops, and that in the future many more people across the country will mark this day by flying the indelible black and white POW/MIA flag as a reminder of the sacrifices made by generations of men and women in order to preserve our freedom."

National POW/MIA Recognition Day is the third Friday of September. This year, it falls on September 17.

More than 138,000 American service members who fought in World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, Vietnam, the Gulf War, and Operation Iraqi Freedom were detained or interned as POWs, many suffering and thousands dying from starvation, forced labor, and severe torture. An additional 84,000 members of the U.S. Armed Forces serving in these wars remain listed by the Defense Department as unaccounted for today.

H. Res. 1630 calls on all Americans "to recognize National POW/MIA Recognition Day with appropriate remembrances, ceremonies, and activities"; formally recognizes that National POW/MIA Recognition Day is one of six days on which the POW/MIA flag is to be flown over specified federal facilities, national cemeteries, military installations, and post offices; expresses the nation's gratitude to American prisoners of war; honors the 84,000 service members who are missing and their families; thanks national POW/MIA organizations for their untiring efforts; and applauds those engaged in accounting for missing members of the Armed Forces. It also recognizes that there remain today members of the Armed Forces being held captive in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"As we express our deepest thanks to all those who did not return home, as well as to those whose homecoming followed months or years of the harshest treatment at the hands of the enemy, it is particularly important that we do not forget the pain their families have suffered," Congressman Lipinski said. "To live without knowing a loved one's fate, or to be deprived of the knowledge of their final resting place, is a terrible and haunting experience. We must make sure that the POW/MIA flag's statement, 'You are not forgotten,' applies to the families of our POWs and MIAs, just as it does to the members of our Armed Forces."

Congressman Lipinski is the author of an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act of 2010 that led the D.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command to undertake a six-week search for the remains of hundreds of missing Marines and sailors killed in the bloody World War II Battle of Tarawa in the Pacific. He is also working to ensure that the Department of Defense complies with language included in the defense authorization act that directs the Pentagon to develop a coordinated program to pursue a more comprehensive approach to missing-in-action recovery efforts.

Moraine Valley to dedicate new Southwest Education Center

Moraine Valley Community College will dedicate its new "green" education center at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 6, with an open house to follow. The community is invited to attend the ceremony and take a tour of the Southwest Education Center, 17900 South 94th Avenue, Tinley Park. The college's first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)-certified building is scheduled to begin classes Monday, October 11. The college also will provide tours Tuesday-Thursday, October 12-14, from 2 to 4 p.m. "We are really excited about opening the center,

continue on page 7

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Bills mounting for the Ryans please help

Just three in one million families receive the devastating diagnosis that their child is affected by a rare heart condition known as dilated cardiomyopathy. This is the reality that Sara and Dan Ryan of the south side of Chicago are facing now as they fight for their infant daughter.

Sara and Dan happily welcomed Rosemary (Rosie) Ryan this past November. At only seven weeks old, Rosie was rushed to the emergency room as she was having difficulty breathing. The family soon learned the devastating news that Rosie suffers from dilated cardiomyopathy, which is a very severe and life-threatening heart condition. Rosie's little heart could not be saved and she was in need of a heart transplant. After waiting nearly four months in heart failure, at world-renowned Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Rosie received her lifesaving heart transplant.

Rosie and her family have a long road ahead of them. The first year of recovery after her transplant will be crucial. With over a dozen medications Rosie is taking every day, it will be critical for the transplant team at Children's Memorial Hospital to monitor her condition and progress. This intense care will continue throughout Rosie's life. On September 19, a fundraiser was held at Bourbon Street in Merrionette Park but the profits will only make a dent in the bills that are accumulating.

If you would be so generous as to send something whether larger or small to the Ryan Family, I am sure it will be appreciated. As you may know, a heart transplant is not a common transplant and the opportunity for Rosie was great and surely expensive throughout her years.

Learn more and donate online @ www.RingAroundRosie.org or contact Annie West at anniewest77@ gmail.com or call at 773.653.9378

$5.8 million awarded in Illinois as part of the Affordable Care Act investment in the HHS/ CDC Prevention

Children's Memorial Hospital was awarded a grant of $5.8 million for obesity prevention in Chicago

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has expanded its investment in communities through awards of more than $31 million to ten communities and one state in the Communities Putting Prevention to Work Program (CPPW). The Prevention and Public Health Fund created by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act will expand the number of communities and states participating in the program, and will support public health efforts to reduce obesity, increase physical activity, improve nutrition and decrease smoking—four critical actions for combating chronic diseases and promoting health.

"Without aggressive efforts to prevent and control chronic diseases—efforts embodied in Communities Putting Prevention to Work, the rise in U.S. health care costs from chronic disease will continue unchecked and an ever increasing number of Americans will continue to suffer from tobacco- and obesity-related illness," said Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius. Communities Putting Prevention to Work, reflects HHS' broader commitment to helping prevent chronic disease before it starts.

These community projects are part of HHS' comprehensive prevention and wellness initiative. These grantees join the 44 original CPPW communities, and 13 States of the CPPW Competitive Special Policy and Environmental Change Initiative funded earlier in 2010 by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009 (ARRA).

CPPW mobilizes communities across the nation to take local action in an effort to prevent and reduce the impact of chronic disease. "These new CPPW awards are a best buy for Americans as they support community-based work through tested programs and strategies that prevent chronic diseases and help Americans lead healthier lives," said CDC Director, Thomas Frieden, "We are changing the paradigm to make the healthy choice the default choice."

The competitive funding awards will expand the reach of CPPW and will allow communities to support healthy choices among their residents through methods including increasing the availability of healthy foods and beverages, improving access to safe places for physical activity, discouraging tobacco use and encouraging smoke free environments.

To learn more about Children's Memorial Hospital prevention and wellness projects, http://www.childrensmemorial.org/

To learn more about Communities Putting Prevention to Work, visit www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/recovery

Peripheral arterial disease newest offering on NIHSeniorHealth site

Information about the risk factors, diagnosis and treatment of peripheral arterial disease, or P.A.D., has just been added to NIHSeniorHealth, the senior-friendly health and wellness website from the National Institutes of Health. Consumers can visit www.nihseniorhealth.gov/peripheralarterialdisease/toc.html to learn more about P.A.D., which develops when arteries in the body become clogged with fatty deposits, limiting blood flow. P.A.D. affects an estimated 8 million to 12 million people, most of them over age 50.

"P.A.D. is a common, yet serious, disease in older adults. Blocked blood flow can cause pain and numbness in the legs, making it difficult to walk or climb stairs. People with P.A.D. are also at risk for heart disease and stroke," says Susan B. Shurin, M.D., acting director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), which developed the content for the new NIHSeniorHealth topic. "NIHSeniorHealth is an excellent resource for older adults to learn how to lower their risk or about appropriate treatments."

Information about P.A.D. is the latest addition to the roster of health topics offered on NIHSenior-Health. A joint effort of the National Institute on Aging (NIA) and the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the website features research-based, easily accessible information on a range of health issues of interest to older people. Topics include ways to exercise properly, safe use of medicines, and management of diseases such as stroke, diabetes, osteoporosis, and Alzheimer's disease. To improve access for older adults, NIHSenior Health includes short, easy-to-read segments of information in a number of formats, including various large-print type sizes, open-captioned videos, and an audio version.

The NLM is the world's largest library of the health sciences and collects, organizes and makes available biomedical science information to scientists, health professionals and the public.

For more information, visit the website at www.nlm.nih.gov.

St. Laurence High School Mothers' Club

All Dabber Super Bingo

Total Payout $2250

Sunday October 10, 2010

BINGO

St. Laurence High School
5556 W. 77th Street, Burbank 177th & Central Ave
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Tickets $20.00

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Mark your payment envelope: Mothers Club All Dabber Super Bingo
Limited tickets available at the door - Cash only at door

CHICAGO'S
the lynn sage foundation

The Lynn Sage Foundation, a Chicago-based organization committed to finding a cure for breast cancer, would like to thank our 2010 Fundraising Partners. Their generous commitment benefits the Lynn Sage Scholars program at Northwestern University.

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Letter to the Editor

AMERICAN MILITARY SOCIETY SUPPORTS RIGHT TO REPAIR ACT

The American Military Society is a veterans' organization whose membership includes active, reserve, National Guard, retired and veterans of the uniformed services, their families and survivors.

We ask that Congress support the passage of HR 2057 and S 3181, The Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act. We believe car owners should have the right to choose where, how and by whom their cars and other motor vehicles are repaired. They should have access to all the repair information from the vehicle manufacturers.

However, this is not the case. Local, independent repair facilities are denied full access to computer codes and other service information from the vehicle manufacturers. This doesn't make any more sense than selling prescription drugs without the doctor's dosing instructions.

This is especially a hardship for military personnel and their families. They are often stationed in remote locations far from any dealership. Spouses of deployed service members, holding their families together alone, are particularly disadvantaged when close, convenient repair shops cannot obtain access to the data needed to make car repairs.

With record numbers of dealership now closed, the problem is even more acute. As more and more cars become more and more complicated, the problem becomes even more difficult. The American Military Society encourages all service members, their families and all Americans to visit www.righttorepair.org to send a letter to each of their Senators and their Representatives, urging them to support this legislation. Sincerely, Charles C. Partridge Col., USA (Ret) American Military Society 571-276-5000 Cp1343@aol.com

Young hearts for life

On September 23, 2010, Midwest Heart Foundation is pleased to bring the Young Hearts for Life (YH4L) Cardiac Screening program to Reavis High School. All students whose parents authorize them to be tested will be screened. This free screening includes an ECG (electrocardiogram) and may include an echocardiogram. This initiative is an effort to increase cardiac health awareness and identify students at risk for sudden cardiac death.

A simple ECG, when used to screen physically active young people, can detect certain serious heart conditions. Recording the electrical activity of the heart using electrodes attached to the skin with a mild adhesive, can detect approximately 60% of the abnormalities or "markers" from these heart conditions that are associated with sudden cardiac death that a stethoscope cannot. To date, over 47,000 students have been screened as a result of the Young Hearts for Life (YH4L) Cardiac Screening program.

The impetus for Reavis' participation in this important program is the memory of Robert Regalado. On April 30, 2009, Robert, a sophomore at Reavis, came home from baseball practice complaining of a headache. Twenty minutes later, his brother found him unconscious. The paramedics were unable to revive him, and Robert died from to complications resulting from a heart defect, a defect that had remained undetected over the nine years that this seemingly healthy young man played sports. A simple ECG could have identified Robert's condition and allowed doctors to treat it before it was too late.

This free screening is completely voluntary. YH4L assures that students' confidentiality, privacy, and individual modesty will be respected throughout all aspects of the program. Only female technicians will test girls and they will be screened in an area separate from boys.

For more information about this program, please visit our website at www.midwestheart.org; or contact 708-599-7200.

A must see concert in Mount Greenwood

The award winning Tribute Quartet will be in concert at Mount Greenwood Reformed Church Saturday, October 2 at 7 PM.

In appearance, warmth and style, this gifted group, based in Nashville TN, has become one of the best Southern Gospel Quartets on the road today. Joining Tribute on stage will be Praises for Him from Hudsonville, Michigan and the Greenwood Mountain Boys, a new local talented group.

For a $5 donation at the door for expenses and a love offering for Tribute Quartet, this is one event the entire family can enjoy. Call 773-238-0067 or e-mail MGCCPastor@aol.com for more info.

New York based jazz quintet to perform at Moraine Valley

Grammy-nominated drummer and composer John Hollenbeck and his Claudia Quintet will perform an evening of jazz at Moraine Valley Community College on Wednesday, September 29, at 7:30 p.m.

The concert will be performed in the John and Angeline Oremus Theater in the Fine and Performing Arts Center, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. General admission tickets cost $10.

Tickets for "John Hollenbeck's Claudia Quintet" and other upcoming performances can be purchased on-line at morainevalley.edu/fpac, by calling (708) 974-5500, or at the Box Office located on the south end of the Fine and Performing Arts Center.

SOUTHWEST SYMPHONY

MUSICAL MISCHIEF

Barber of Seville Overture – Rossini
A Musical Joke – Presto – Mozart
Solo Bagpipe Selections – TBA
Sinfonia in D "Peasant's Wedding" – Mozart
Dave Johnston, Bagpipes Soloist
Eine Kleine Nicht Musik – PDQ Bach
Jeux de Gargantua – Satie
The Typewriter – Anderson
Deanna Heffron, Old Fashioned Typewriter
Special Guest Appearance by Jake the Pug
CATcerto – Piccatis
YouTube Sensation Nora the Piano Cat
Leroy Anderson Favorites - Anderson

Sunday October 3, 2010 – 4 p.m.
Trinity Christian College, Ozinga Auditorium
6601 West College Dr., Palos Heights IL

Adults $20-24 Students $5
Seniors $15-20 Children 12 and under free
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Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling **708-802-0686**
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November 11, 2010

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November 11, 6-8 p.m.
November 30 (Spanish), 6-7:30 p.m.
December 5, 1-3 p.m.
January 6, 2011, 6-8 p.m.

Entrance Exam
January 8, 2011, 8 a.m.

For more information or to schedule a personal visit, contact Mr. Mario Escobedo at 773-925-8686 x116

www.mariahighschool.org
6727 S. California • Chicago, IL 60629
773-925-8686

St. Benedict Fest
Saturday, September 25, 2010
All Are Welcome!
Alumni • Friends • Parishioners
Come and join the fun!
Food, Drinks, Children's Activities
and Live Entertainment
Spread the Word!
Mass 4pm ~ Fest 5pm-11pm
near St. Benedict Church
2339 York Street • Blue Island

Oak Lawn Chamber to Offer Free business Seminars

Beginning this month, the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce will host free Business Seminars for its members and the community. All seminars will take place in the lower level meeting rooms of the Oak Lawn Public Library, located at 9427 S. Raymond Ave.

"In these challenging economic times the Chamber is seeking new ways to bring value-added programs and services to our members," says Rita Olsen, owner of the Gateway Motel & Inn and Chamber President. "We feel the topics are both pertinent and enticing to our membership."

Scheduled for Thursday, September 23rd, the first seminar is titled "Get Up & Grow!" and will provide ideas on how members can boost their businesses income and create a plan for strategically sustaining that growth.

Denise Stillman of Clear Directions will give attendees a framework for their next 12 months' marketing plan, a better understanding of how to reevaluate their market in this new economy and help them gain more confidence in their positive growth. Denise is a 19 year veteran marketer and strategist who has expertise in marketing, strategic planning, sales and business development through her work for well known consumer products companies, pharmaceutical giants and the healthcare industry.

On Tuesday, October 26th, we will address the "Five Keys to Email Marketing" with Steve Robinson of Constant Contact.

Steve will show how email marketing can help any business or organization grow. He'll address creating and delivering highly branded, professional looking emails designed to wow customers and prospects. Email marketing is an effective, affordable and easy to use way to enhance any organization or business image and build relationships that lead to increased profits and participation. This seminar appeals to anybody that wants to learn five basic things that are necessary to successfully conduct email marketing campaigns.

Steve Robinson is a Regional Development Director with Constant Contact. He relies on his more than 26 years of experience in business development, sales, and fund-raising to help small businesses and nonprofits achieve success.

On Thursday, November 18th, we will welcome members of SCORE (Service Core of Retired Executives) who will address ways to "Cut Costs in Tough Times."

SCORE is America's premier source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs. It offers advice online and in-person at one of our 364 offices nationwide. SCORE Has Helped 8.5 Million Small Businesses, including companies such as Vermont Teddy Bear, Vera Bradley Designs and Jelly Belly Candy. Every year, SCORE helps almost 20,000 businesses start.

For more information, or to make a reservation, call the office at 708-424-8300 office@oaklawnchamber.com. Seating is limited.

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WED. 5PM-10PM

THURS. 5PM-10PM

FRI. 5PM-11PM

SAT. NOON- MIDNIGHT

SUN.- NOON-11PM

The Blue Island Park District Presents

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY

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continue from page 2

college president. This completes our major construction projects funded by the 2006 bond referendum. We continue to appreciate our community's support so that we can expand our educational offerings closer to home for many of our residents. We look forward to serving them in the years ahead." The center, which is approximately 32,000 square feet, features: Classrooms, a science lab, computer rooms, and multipurpose rooms. Quiet study room, and tutoring and testing centers. A cyber café with an outdoor seating area. Bike racks will be available to encourage alternate modes of transportation. Some of the LEED features in the building design and surrounding site include a geothermal heating and cooling system to reduce the building's overall energy consumption, and daylighting, rain harvesting and lighting controls. These daylight-compensating controls will reduce the need for artificial lighting. Water-efficient landscaping will use native plant species, vegetative bioswales, porous paving materials and water retention ponds. Recycled materials will be used throughout the building wherever possible. Classes will include a mix of general education, introductory career courses, noncredit and continuing education classes. Student support services such as registration, financial aid, and counseling also will be available.

Church announces their schedule

Family Harvest Church invites all ladies to attend their annual three day women's conference, "REALITY 2010" beginning Thursday, October 14 and continuing through Saturday, October 16. Host Linda Thompson welcomes guest speakers Nancy Alcorn, Sandy Redmond, and Talese Dickson who specialize in women's issues promising challenging messages mixed with encouragement and laughter. Registration is required by calling the church office at (708) 614-6000 and all widows, ladies 65 and older, and girls 8th grade and under may attend the conference free. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door for $30. For more details on "REALITY 2010", visit www.familyharvestchurch.org http:www.familyharvestchurch.org Family Harvest Church is located at 18500 92nd Avenue in Tinley Park, IL.

The Fall Fun Fair at Tinley Park's Family Harvest Church is a great free family event packed with games, prizes, candy, and shows for kids to enjoy. The fun will begin at 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm on Saturday, October 30th with costume judging and lots of give-away's. For more information, call (708) 614-6000 or visit www.familyharvestchurch.org www.familyharvestchurch.org Family Harvest Church is located off of I-80 at 18500 92nd Avenue in Tinley Park.

Little Company of Mary Hospital Selects General Contractor

Power Construction Awarded Hospital's Replacement Tower Project

Little Company of Mary Hospital has selected Chicago-based Power Construction as the general contractor overseeing the construction of the Hospital's 300,000 square-foot replacement patient tower. Power Construction is an 82-year old management-owned commercial construction company.

The "West Pavilion" replacement patient tower plans include:

- 96 Private patient rooms with bath
- Comprehensive Women's Center for Life and Health
- Pharmacy and Laboratory
- Energy-efficient Energy Plant
- Gift shop
- Hospital Kitchen and Cafeteria

Little Company of Mary has received CON approval from the Illinois Facilities Planning Board to move forward with this Project. The groundbreaking for the new West Pavilion is scheduled for next week. For more information on the Campus Transformation Project, log onto www.LCMH.org/Transformation.

E.P. Local receives award

Laura Daluga of Evergreen Park was one of three recent monthly semi-final winners for Fox Valley Volkswagen's LOVEbug2 Contest, which asks Chicagoland residents to nominate someone whose good deeds have gone a long way to help inspire them or others.

She and two other August semi-finalists each won a Sony® Flash Memory Handycam® Camcorder in a special award ceremony at Fox Valley Volkswagen's West Chicago location, and will be entered into the Grand Prize Contest in December for a chance to win a 2010 Limited Edition Volkswagen Beetle valued at $20,390.

Daluga, a fourth-generation florist, was nominated by a friend who would like her commute to her new job in Palatine made easier with her own car. Daluga currently commutes three hours per day to devote her time to a career she loves – creating beautiful and memorable floral arrangements for others' special occasions.

"We are delighted to have the opportunity to honor Laura and all she does to bring the beautiful joy of flowers to others' lives," said Emir Ahinion, owner of Fox Valley Volkswagen.

SEPTEMBER 2010 Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Movie & Popcorn "Because I Said So" 1 p.m.	2 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	3 Monthly Birthday Party! 1 p.m.	4
5	6 Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day	7 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	8 Movie & Popcorn "Space Cowboys" 1 p.m.	9 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	10 Let's Play Bingo! 1 p.m.	11
12	13 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	14 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	15 Movie & Popcorn "5 People You Meet In Heaven" 1 p.m.	16 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	17	18 Humana Guidance Center's 2nd Anniversary Celebration! 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
19	20 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	21 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	22 Movie & Popcorn "Happy Accidents" 1 p.m.	23 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.	24 Informative Health Discussion "Diabetes" (Guest Speaker) 1 p.m.	25
26	27 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	28 Tai Chi 1 p.m.	29 Movie & Popcorn "Eight Below" 1 p.m.	30 Wii Bowling 11 a.m. Line Dancing 1 p.m.		

7945 S. Harlem Ave., Burbank, IL 60459
For more information, please call:
708-430-9504
You are welcome anytime at the Humana Guidance Center — whether you are a Humana member or not.

HUMANA

beyond ordinary

by J. Haymaker

The Plunger Story

It was a work week day. My alarm clock had woken me a short while earlier with its usual punctuality. I was busy getting ready for heading off to work. The usual stuff like eating breakfast, making a sandwich for lunch. I expected it to be a fairly uneventful common day. Some of the usual decisions needed consideration. The weather would affect my decision of taking my car to work or riding my motorcycle. As I made my preparations I had a distinct feeling that a toilet plunger would be needed that day at work. That struck me as very unusual considering my job as electrical worker on the city subway trains has nothing to do with plumbing!

The first thought that flashed my mind was how stupid I would look walking in to work carrying a toilet plunger. A paper bag would easily hide that. If there was an unusual case to need a plunger it would be really handy if I happened to have one in my roll away tool box. Bringing it was not a problem, so I grabbed the one I had in my bathroom. I knew they had plungers in the washroom at work, so how odd is it that I'm bringing one there today? I can just take it back home if its not needed and no one will be the wiser.

The day progressed fairly normally as my co-workers and I casually went about our usual work routines. I had forgotten that "Joey" who ran the oven was also changing a valve on the bottom of the pressurizing varnish tank. He was draining the tank and ran into a problem. The tank was almost empty but still held a small amount of varnish. He needed a container and found a metal can in the scrap metal heap outside the building. The can had a dent in it and he was trying to figure out how to pull it out. The plungers in the work toilet were the wrong kind to do that job. It was not to long before most of the people in my area were gathered around trying to think of a solution to the problem and offing possible solutions. I was working and noticed the crowd of them and the foreman in a circle there. I walked over to check out what was going on there.

They filled me in on the situation and I promptly remembered I had brought my plunger from home. I turned and walked to my rolling toolbox to retrieve it. I knew they would find it odd that I had that in my box. I was unconcerned. None of them knew about me. I had never mentioned it to them because I didn't think it concerned them. I guess it was time to explain!

As I approached the crowd of them the ones looking my way started laughing. This was obviously because of the plunger in my hand. I thought it was kind of funny myself. There was no good reason why I or any of my co-workers should have a toilet plunger in there tool box. We all had one or more at home but did not use them at work for anything, usually ever.

Now the foreman in my area was an African American. In my experience, anything real out of the ordinary would be considered spooky to him and he stood there as if frozen with a real shocked look on his face. I spoke to the other workers saying "hey would you like to borrow this? I had walked up next to Leon and he turned to see what I was holding and said,

"Where the hell did you get that". I explained how I had a feeling in the morning that for some odd reason it would be needed there that day and so brought it with me. They all were highly entertained by this and I handed the plunger to Joey so he could pull the dent. While I was on the subject I went on to explain that this was not the first time I had experienced a premonition and I was glad it had worked out in our favor.

Queen of Peace to Celebrate Class Reunions

Queen of Peace High School will hold class reunions for the graduating classes of 1995 and 1980 on Friday, Oct. 22 from 7-10 p.m. at Bourbon Street, 3359 W. 115th St. in Merrionette Park. Cost of the reunion is $35 and includes hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and open bar. An 8x10 photo of the class, available for purchase, will be taken at 8 p.m.

Visit www.queenofpeacehs.org to view your reunion invitation. For more info, call (708) 458-7600, Ext. 250. It's time to reconnect. Spread the word to celebrate with your classmates.

Cook County Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy presented bill 10-R-292

10 R 292 RESOLUTION Sponsored by THE HONORABLE JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, COUNTY COMMISSIONER Co Sponsored by THE HONORABLE JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P DALEY, JOSEPH MARIO MORENO, EDWIN REYES, PETER N SILVESTRI, PRESIDENT, TODD H STROGER, WILLIAM M BEAVERS, FORREST CLAYPOOL, EARLEAN COLLINS, BRIDGET GAINER, ELIZABETH DOODY GORMAN, GREGG GOSLIN, ANTHONY J PERAICA, TIMOTHY O SCHNEIDER, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT B STEELE AND LARRY SUFFREDIN, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS A RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO AWARD A GRANT TO THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A STUDY AND EVALUATION OF A HIGH SPEED RAIL CORRIDOR BETWEEN CHICAGO AND ST. LOUIS WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration's High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) grant application request for $8.32 million to conduct a feasibility study and evaluate a 220 mph high speed rail corridor between Chicago and St. Louis; and WHEREAS, the Federal Railroad Administration has received 77 applications from 25 states for the most recent round of HSIPR grant funding which will be awarded from the more than $2.3 billion appropriated in FY 2010; and WHEREAS, IDOT's comprehensive plan will include a market study, ridership forecasting, a suggested implementation strategy, a full comparison of the route alternatives between Chicago and St. Louis, a determination of which route is the most efficient and which would have the lowest capital and operating costs, a study of which route would generate the highest ridership, and a Tier One Environmental Impact Statement; and WHEREAS, IDOT will also adhere to important Davis-Bacon fair wage labor standards as required in federally assisted construction subagreements, and WHEREAS, with Europe and Asia, the United States must have high speed trains on their own dedicated tracks, powered by electricity, not shared or owned by freight lines, and capable of traveling 220-mph to connect our city centers together; and WHEREAS, only true high speed rail will wean the American public away from their automobiles, reduce carbon emissions, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and relieve highway and airport congestion; and WHEREAS, a true American high speed train project would complement the Amtrak rail line not hinder its customer base, due to the ever increasing Mid west demand for alternative methods of transportation; and WHEREAS, funding this project would fulfill the President's goal of creating jobs, strengthening and diversifying our Nation's transportation infrastructure system, and provide an environmentally friendly transportation alternative to Americans in the Midwest. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County urges the Federal Railroad Administration and the U.S. Secretary of Transportation to fully consider IDOT's grant request and award $8.32 million to IDOT for high speed rail corridor planning activities; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be tendered to U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, members of the Illinois Congressional delegation, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn, Federal Railroad Administrator Joseph Szabo, and Illinois DOT Secretary Gary Hannig and may it also be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body. Approved and adopted this 1st day of September 2010. TODD H. STROGER, President Cook County Board of Commissioners Attest: DAVID ORR, County Clerk

Chapel Hill Gardens South Cemetery & Funeral Home

11333 South Central Avenue Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 636-1200

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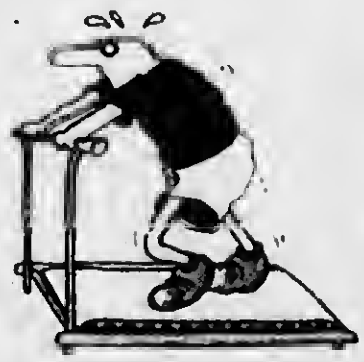

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Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

by Alan Bresloff

There are times we go to the theater just looking for an escape from the reality of the world around us, to just laugh and forget all about whether our team has a chance for the playoffs, if we will get that well deserved raise, or if the big sale will close next week.

At a time like that, "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" the latest production at Theatre at the Center in nearby Munster Indiana, is the perfect escape. The story starts off a little slow, but under the careful eye of Pullinsi and Flaster, the tempo moves up and once it gets up, it never comes down again.

The story centers on two con men living or "working" the French Riviera. The older, more sophisticated Lawrence Jameson (well played by the very suave Larry Wyatt) who makes his living by convincing wealthy women that his kingdom is involved in a war and needs weapons and a small time crook, Freddy Benson (a charming character brought to life by the witty and charming Michael Mahler).

There are some delightful twists to the story as each of them works their tricks and ploys to win the wager. There are double crosses and some strange twists leading to a surprise ending that is as charming and delightful as one can hope for.

The sub-plot involves Andre Thibault, the always reliable Larry dams, Jameson's right hand man and his meeting up with Muriel, a widow from Omaha, who is one of the swindled ladies in Jameson's life, played with a special comic touch by Chicago veteran Paula Scrofano, who can play any role and make it effective.

She is a hoot and their scenes in the second act alone are worth the price of the ticket, as they fall in love.

The musical director for "Scoundrels" is William A. Underwood and the set by Christopher Ash is one of great flexability with quick movement on and off to avoid long scene changes -, during the longer ones, we are treated to some wonderful dance numbers that take our eyes and mind off the set being switched.

Brenda Winstead's costumes are very "Broadway" and Kevin Barthel has done quiet a job with the wigs.

Theatre at the Center is celebrating 20 years in Munster and this is their 100th production.

Who would have thought that, a regional theater would have taken "hold" in Munster? Well it did!

Under the guidance of William Pullinsi and his able staff it has become a "destination theater", one that people want to go to- not just because it is nearby, but because it is affordable theater of the high quality Chicago audiences demand and they put together a mixed menu of productions so audiences can get a good mix of theater, classics and new.

It was a treat to see Pullinsi honored by the City Board prior to the start of the show.

He has been a major contributor to the Chicago regional theater scene for many years and I for one am glad to see him honored for what he has brought to the "arena" a little play on words for the "theater crowd".

Take the ride to Munster and take in this lovely little musical. It will continue at Theatre at the Center through October 10th with performances as follows: Wednesday and Thursday at 2 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Sundays at 2:30 p.m. There are some select Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets range frm $36- $40, a bargain for theater this good and plenty of free parking. To order your tickets call 219-836-3255 or Tickets.com at 800-511-1552 www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com Theatre at the Center is located at 1040 Ridge Road in Munster.

A FALL PROGRAM FEATURING works by master choreographers

GEORGE BALANCHINE, JEROME ROBBINS, AND CHRISTOPHER WHEELDON

At the Auditorium Theatre: October 13 – 24 Joffrey Ballet Artistic Director Ashley C. Wheater presents the 2010-2011 Stars season, launching with All Stars, a mixed repertory program of four works – three of which are Company Premieres – by three iconic New York choreographers: George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins and Christopher Wheeldon. The All Stars program will be presented at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E. Congress Parkway, October 13 - 24, 2010. All Stars marks the first Joffrey program to include an additional Thursday performance on October 21, making ten performances throughout the run – up from nine in previous seasons.

The All Stars program opens with the Joffrey Premiere of George Balanchine's Stravinsky Violin Concerto, which was revised in 1972 from a previous choreographic endeavor titled Balustrade that premiered in 1941. Using the opening "Toccata," two central "Arias" and the final "Capriccio" from Igor Stravinsky's Violin Concerto in D, Balanchine forms contrasting pas de deux, one soft and lyrical while the other is sharply angular, framed by grand ensemble sections. The choreography for this festive work is rooted in the folk dance traditions of Georgia, then a part of the Soviet Union, imbuing Balanchine's characteristically intricate and demanding movement with a Russian flavor appropriate for an homage to the genius of Stravinsky.

Jerome Robbins is world-renowned for his work as a choreographer of ballets as well as his work as a director and choreographer in theater, movies and television. Although he began as a modern dancer, his start on Broadway was as a chorus dancer before joining the corps de ballet of American Ballet Theatre in 1939, where he went on to dance principal roles in the works of Fokine, Tudor, Massine, Balanchine, Lichine and de Mille. While embarking on his career in the theater, Robbins simultaneously created ballets for New York City Ballet, which he joined in 1949, and became an Associate Artistic Director with George Balanchine. In addition to two Academy ® Awards for the film West Side Story, Robbins has received four Tony ® Awards, five Donaldson Awards, two Emmy ® Awards, the Screen Directors' Guild Award, and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award. Robbins was a 1981 Kennedy Center Honors Recipient and was awarded the French Chevalier dans l'Ordre National de la Legion d'Honneur. Robbins passed away in 1998. The Joffrey Ballet last performed Robbins' In the Night in Fall 2008.

Christopher Wheeldon is among today's most innovative contemporary ballet choreographers. Born in Somerset, England, Wheeldon developed an affinity for music and movement at an early age. At age 11, after studying at the East Coker Ballet School, Wheeldon entered The Royal Ballet School and joined The Royal Ballet company in 1991. In 1993 Christopher Wheeldon traveled to New York where he soon accepted a position with New York City Ballet, where he served as Resident Choreographer from 2001 to 2008. Wheeldon has shown his versatility by working in various mediums. He choreographed the ballet sequences in Nicholas Hytner's film Center Stage (2000) and they collaborated again on the Broadway musical The Sweet Smell of Success (2002). Wheeldon made his operatic debut with the "Dance of the Hours" in the Metropolitan Opera House's revival of Amilcare Ponchielli's' La Gianconda (2006). Wheeldon founded Morphoses/The Wheeldon Company in 2007 with the goal of introducing a new spirit of innovation to classical ballet. He resigned as Artistic Director of Morphoses in February 2010 and continues to work as a freelance choreographer. Joffrey last performed a Wheeldon work, Carousel (A Dance), in Spring 2009.

Performance Schedule and Pricing for All Stars:

The performance schedule for All Stars at the Auditorium Theatre is as follows: Wednesday, October 13 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, October 15 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, October 16 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, October 17 at 2:00 p.m.; Thursday, October 21 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, October 22 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, October 23 at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, October 24 at 2:00 p.m.

Single tickets, priced from $25 to $145, are available for purchase at The Joffrey Ballet's official Box Office, located in the lobby of 10 E. Randolph Street, as well as the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University box office, all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers, by telephone at (800) 982-2787 or online at www.ticketmaster.com.

Broadway In Chicago is pleased to announce the new show *PANDEMONIUM*

THE LOST AND FOUND ORCHESTRA for a limited one week engagement at the Bank of America Theatre (18 W. Monroe) October 12 – 17, 2010. Individual tickets for this new production from the creators of STOMP will go on sale on Friday, September 17, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

After the global success of their unique take on rhythm and physical theatre, STOMP co-creators Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas, have taken their concept to a new level with PANDEMONIUM: THE LOST AND FOUND ORCHESTRA which will begin a North American tour on September 16 in Miami and will tour exclusively in seven cities including Chicago.

Where STOMP creates rhythm with everyday objects, PANDEMONIUM transforms everyday objects into a plethora of invented instruments. Performed by the LFO (Lost and Found Orchestra), PANDEMONIUM recreates every section of a symphony orchestra, using musical saws, bottles, whirly toys and traffic cones. Out of chaos is found an orchestra.

Reworked for 2010 with a dazzling array of homemade instruments, a 25 member mix of veteran STOMP performers, classical musicians, physical comedians and aerialists, PANDEMONIUM climaxes with the human voice being added to the mix: what begins with simple melodies plucked, blown, thumped and brushed into life ends in a complex symphonic and choral celebration.

In each city a 30 member local choir will contribute vocals. Luke Cresswell serves as onstage conductor of the 50+ member company and will perform in PANDEMONIUM.

Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas were approached by The Brighton Festival (UK) commissioning a new work for its 40th anniversary. In only six months, instruments had to be invented and reinvented from scratch, and an entire score composed.

With the help of a crew made up of experienced STOMP personnel, expert instrument designer Paul Marshall advising, and with UK musicians who were prepared to abandon their instruments and learn how to play saws and hosepipes, LFO premiered there in May 2006. Since then LFO has broken box office records at Sydney Opera House, and played extended runs. PANDEMONIUM will go on sale Friday, September 17 at 10:00 a.m. Individual tickets range in price from $25 to $60.

A select number of premium seats are also available. Tickets are available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St. and 18 W. Monroe St.), the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000, all Ticketmaster retail locations (including Hot Tix and select Carson Pirie Scott, Coconuts and Tye stores), and online at www.BroadwayInChicago.com.

For groups of 15 or more, call (312) 977-1710.

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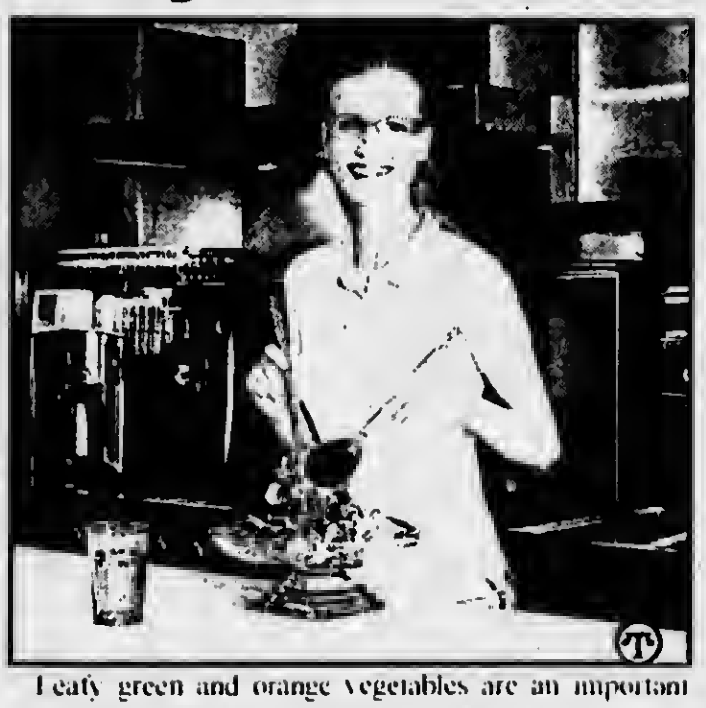

Leafy green and orange vegetables are an important part of diets designed to promote eye health

Watch Your Diet To Maintain Healthy Vision

(NAPSA)-Surprisingly, the phrase "you are what you eat" may be most significant when it comes to your eyesight. Yet many people are not aware of the positive effects that a healthy, balanced diet can have on their eyes.

A recent study in the United Kingdom by Transitions Optical revealed that 43 percent of consumers were unaware that improper nutrition can cause damage to the eyes and even contribute to conditions such as cataracts and age-related macular degeneration.

"Good nutrition and a proper, balanced diet are important in any aspect of personal health," said Dr. Vincent Young, ophthalmologist. "When I talk to my patients about diet, I stress the importance of balance. When recommending specific foods, leafy green vegetables, such as kale and collard greens, are great components of a diet that promotes healthy sight."

What's more, 93 percent of the study's respondents considered sight to be their most valuable sense and the one they feared losing the most, yet most showed a lack of knowledge about foods that contribute to healthy eyesight.

According to Dr. Young, other foods that benefit the eyes include fruits, such as grapes and berries, vegetables, especially carrots and squash, soy, nuts and wine, in moderation. These foods contain vitamins A, C and E as well as fatty acids and omega-3, all of which contribute to eye health.

Dr. Young also stresses the importance of maintaining a healthy diet when managing diabetes, since diabetes often causes vision-threatening complications, such as diabetic retinopathy and, in some cases, even blindness. For diabetic patients, diets low in sodium and rich in antioxidants are good.

While a balanced diet promotes healthy vision from the inside, it's also important to protect your eyes from the outside. Dr. Young recommends the following steps to protect and promote healthy sight for the entire family:

- Schedule regular visits to your eye doctor
- Wear sunscreen and UV-protective clothing
- Consider adaptive eyeglass lenses, such as Transitions lenses, that automatically adjust the level of darkness to block 100 percent of UV rays and help to reduce distracting glare
- Drink plenty of water daily and maintain a balanced diet high in beta-carotene and antioxidants

To learn more about healthy sight, visit www.transitions.com.

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Health Awareness

Food is not the enemy. Sitting still is the enemy. Try to stand and take a walk whenever you can fit it in.

Survey Reveals Americans May Be Miles Off When Judging Daily Activity Levels

(NAPSA)-Adding steps to your daily regimen could bring you closer to a healthy level of physical activity. The first step, however, is a realistic appraisal of how active you really are.

According to the recent Energizer Reality Check Survey, Americans are unaware of how many steps they take on a daily basis. Participants in the study were asked to estimate how many steps they take in an average day. Then, Energizer equipped each participant with a pedometer and asked them to wear it every day for one week and report the number of steps taken. As a result of the challenge, 42 percent of participants found they took fewer steps than they had originally guessed. Many of those (36 percent) were off by 4,000 steps or more. That's about two miles.

Younger participants, ages 30 and under, were even more likely to overestimate (44 percent). And even those who were conservative about their estimates-the 58 percent that actually took more steps than they guessed-were way off.

"You have to know where you are in order to know where you're going," says fitness expert Denise Austin, who has teamed up with Energizer to help motivate Americans to take a proactive role in monitoring their fitness. "The best way to gauge your level of activity is to use simple tools-such as pedometers and heart rate monitors-that provide you instant information."

Getting Informed

Given that almost one-third (31 percent) of Americans believe there is at least one hour during every day when they don't even take a single step, opportunities abound to incorporate more activity at work or at home.

"Fidgeting and moving around are good," says Austin. "People who can't sit still burn up to 500 extra calories every day. If your work consists of a lot of time sitting at a desk, make sure you move around at least every 30 minutes-take advantage of breaks to take quick walks and stand up while you talk on the phone."

Austin challenges you to guess how many steps you take in a day. After guessing, wear a pedometer for a week, then post the results on www.facebook.com/energizerbunny.

Here are a few more tips from Denise Austin:

• Test your walking and fitness ability by seeing how fast you can walk a mile. Whether you go to the track, hit the treadmill or set out in your own neighborhood, try to see if you can do a 15-minute mile. This will help you see how much you need to improve.

• Little steps do matter. Standing burns twice as many calories as sitting. If you sit often, get off your chair as much as possible to increase circulation and the number of calories you burn. Food is not the enemy. Sitting still is the enemy.

• Pump your arms. A great way to make your workout count is to pump your arms. Pumping increases the number of muscles you are using, toning your arms and burning more calories.

• Interval training. Strap on a heart rate monitor so you know what zone you are in while exercising. By alternating a low-intensity pace with bursts of high intensity, you burn more calories and challenge your cardiovascular system. An effective workout can be 30 minutes of alternating three minutes of walking with two minutes of jogging.

• Stretch after exercising to help repair muscles and especially focus on your lower back. You can do this by standing up, keeping your feet hip-width apart, grabbing the back of your thighs and rounding your back like a C.

• Keep your spine strong so you can keep going. One of the best ways to do this is by strengthening your abs. Re-educate your abdominal muscles by pulling them in and contracting them all day long.

• Keep moving. Walking around for one minute in between activities during the day improves circulation instantly and boosts your metabolism.

"Music is my motivator," says Austin. "Working out with music is scientifically proven to help people work out harder and longer. So grab your MP3 player and put some great tunes on to help make the most of your workout."

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 18 | September 21, 2010

John Marequenski, owner of Mission Signs and Orland Park Area Chamber Board member, offers tips regarding signage for booth display at Expo events. Marequenski was part of the Expo informational seminar organized by the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce and held at the Orland Park Public Library. The seminar, which is held every year in the fall, offers tips on the various aspects of exhibiting at Expos. There are still exhibitor booths available for the Community Expo to be held at Carl Sandburg High School on Saturday, October 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information or to download a booth registration form visit the Chamber website at www.orlandparkchamber.org or call the chamber office at (708) 349-2972.

City to install energy-efficient lighting, boilers using multiple grant awards

The City of Oak Forest will install energy-efficient lighting and boilers in city facilities using more than $90,000 in energy efficiency grants and rebates secured by the city from the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, and Nicor.

Specifically, the city is replacing inefficient lighting fixtures equipped with T12 magnetic ballasts with electronic T8 fixtures in City Hall, the Police Department, both Fire Stations, and the Public Works building. According to Public Works Assistant Director Richard Rinehich, the T8 units are more energy efficient, have a low life-cycle cost, and will be equipped with bulbs that more closely resemble natural light.

"Besides the fact that the T12 units are no longer being manufactured, we are moving toward T8 fixtures because they are the standard in new construction and more environmentally friendly," Rinehich explained. "These new T8 light fixtures will be brighter than the ones they replace, use fewer bulbs, and take longer to burn out so we'll spend less time replacing bulbs in our facilities over the next five years."

The funds also will be used to replace the 31-year-old boiler in City Hall with two smaller, more energy-efficient, two-stage boiler systems. The two boilers, when installed, will increase seasonal efficiency by dividing the overall heating load and operating only the number of boiler(s) necessary to meet the load at a given time. An internal controller will monitor system supply temperature and determine what boiler to operate to keep that temperature at or very close to a target temperature.

"The new boilers will greatly reduce our overall natural gas consumption, especially during the summer months," Rinehich added. "These two projects are just another step toward our goal of earning an Energy Star certification for our facilities and strengthening our commitment to environmental programs such as Clean Air Counts."

Oak Forest Traffic Report

From August 20 through September 6, the Oak Forest Police Department issued 52 tickets as part of a traffic enforcement campaign funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) Integrated Mini-Grant Enforcement program. While most of the tickets were issued for unrestrained occupants, other offenses included speeding, lack of insurance, and fleeing the police.

"Our main goal is to make our streets safer for drivers and pedestrians," said Lieutenant Michael Shaughnessy. "Campaigns like these help us reinforce to drivers how important it is to drive responsibly."

The campaign was the final in a five-part program to promote traffic safety by conducting saturation patrols in pre-assigned areas. In October, the department will begin a similar trafficenforcement campaign funded by IDOT's Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program.

Orland Park Village Board passes potpourri of legislation

by Ronald Ayers-Reporting

The Orland Park Board of Trustees unanimously approved a potpourri of lease agreements, purchases, and ordinances placed before it during its regular board meeting held at Orland Park City Hall, 14700 Ravinia Avenue Tuesday evening September 7, 2010.

Thirteen of the fourteen legislative items on the Board's Consent Agenda were passed unanimously without comment or discussion. Passage of a lease agreement with the Board Of Trustees of the University of Illinois brought a request for clarification from Trustee Patricia Gira, Public Safety Committee Chair.

According to the lease agreement, the University of Illinois Extension Gardener Program was offered 618 square feet of space in the cultural Center building located at 14750 Park Lane. The agreement calls for a lease term of (1) year at an annual rent rate of twelve ($12.00) per year for (1) year.

According to village officials the lease agreement will benefit Orland Park by:

- Providing Potential Master Gardener workshops for residents
- Master Gardeners contributing 2-3 times per year to the Village Newsletter
- Master Gardeners collaborating with the Parks, Recreation and Environmental Initiatives Committee as needed.

After Trustee Gira's concerns about the lease agreement were addressed the board unanimously approved the lease.

In other business:

- The board approved the purchase of John Deere XUV 825i from Circle Tractor of Homer Glen, Illinois for a cost not to exceed $11,928.90. According to Orland Park officials the Orland Park Police Department had identified a need for a new "off road" type vehicle to replace and improve upon the department's 1996 Kawasaki ATV which the police department no longer deems "road worthy."

"During events such as Orland Days, the 4th of July and the Taste of Orland, it would be very helpful to have a mode of transportation for officers to move throughout the site in an efficient and safe manner," said a police department spokesman.

The vehicle is to be paid for with the use of funds from a 2009 Justice Assistance Award of $20,813.00 received from the Judicial Advisory Council of Cook County.

- Approved the Bi-weekly Payroll for August 20, 2010 in the amount of $1,029,370.47, and the Monthly Hourly Payroll for August 31, 2010 in the amount of $17,052.91
- Approved Accounts Payable from August 17, 2010 through September 7, 2010 in the amount of $2,507,443.03.
- Approved an ordinance for the disposal of certain seized vehicles at public auction. This ordinance was necessitated by the police departments request that the Village declare a 1996 Chevy Geo, and a 1999 Ford Taurus forfeited as "excess property to be disposed of at public auction". The vehicles were seized by the department and forfeited to the village by the Circuit Court of Cook County from drivers who were driving their vehicles while their license was suspended for DUI.
- Approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Irish Patriot restaurant located at 9875 W. 143rd street. The restaurant will operate per the special use parameters of the previous restaurant, Paddy B's.
- Approved the Paddy B's located at 11969 W. 143rd Street Smart Energy Fund application of $8,891.59. The proposed project does not financially impact Orland Park's budget. Funding is provided through the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), which was funded via the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.
- Approved a special use permit of Subway Restaurant at 15860 W. Wolf Road.

The Orland Park Village Board meets on the first and third Monday's of each month at 7:00 pm in the Board Room, Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 S. Ravinia Ave.

Cont. from column 3

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 18 | September 21, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Murphy Visits U.S. Dept. of Transportation and Urges Evaluation of High-Speed Rail Corridor between Chicago and St. Louis

"Only true high-spred rail will wean the Amerivan public nway from their automobiles, reduce varbon emissions, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and relieve highway and airport congestion" – Joan Patrivia Murphy

Cook County Board Commissioner Joan Patricia Murphy has passed legislation urging U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood and the Federal Railroad Administration to award $8.2 million to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) to conduct a feasibility study and evaluate a 220-mph high-speed rail corridor between Chicago and St. Louis.

"As in Europe and Asia, the United States must have high-speed rail trains on their own dedicated tracks, powered by electricity, not shared or owned by freight lines, and capable of traveling 220-mph to connect our city centers together," said Murphy. Commissioner Murphy recently met with U.S. Department of Transportation officials in Washington, DC to build support for Illinois high-speed rail development.

"We need dedicated federal funding for high-speed intercity passenger rail service to make tomorrow's transportation infrastructure more energy efficient, more environmentally sustainable and less reliant on foreign oil," said Murphy. The Federal Railroad Administration has received 77 applications from 25 states for the most recent round of High-Speed Rail Intercity Passenger Rail grant funding totaling $8.5 billion.

Recipients of this funding will be announced in the fall of 2010. Copy of Cook County Board Resolution 10-R-292 is on page 8 in this issue. Commissioner Murphy serves the 6th County Board District which includes all or portions of the following 37 municipalities: Alsip, Bedford Park, Bridgeview, Calumet City, Chicago Heights, Chicago Ridge, Crestwood, Dolton, East Hazel Crest, Flossmoor, Ford Heights, Garden Homes, Glenwood, Hickory Hills, Homewood, Justice, Lansing, Lynwood, Matteson, Merrionette Park, Midlothian, Oak Forest, Oak Lawn, Orland Park, Palos Heights, Palos Hills, Park Forest, Richton Park, Sauk Village, South Chicago Heights, South Holland, Steger, Summit, Thornton, Tinley Park, University Park, and Worth.

Palos Park Library annual book sale

The Palos Park Public Library's Annual Book Sale will begin on a special preview night Thursday, September 23rd, from 5:00-8:00 pm with a $5.00 admission. The book sale will be open to the public Friday, September 24th, during regular library hours, and will run through Saturday, October 2nd. For more information call the library at (708)448-1530, online at www.palosparklibrary.org.

Richards to host eighth annual Southland Model Railroad Show

Richards High School will host its eighth annual Southland Model Railroad Show on Saturday and Sunday, September 25 and 26. Richards, located at 10601 S. Central Avenue in Oak Lawn , will host the event both days from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is $6 for adults, $5 for senior citizens 65 and older, and free for children under age 12. Parking is free.

Their train show includes many model train displays and operating layouts, Lego trains, and a children's activities area. Exhibitors include Blackhawk Chapter NRHS, Bolingbrook Model Railroad Club, British Train Society, Calumet Division C.A.S.G., Independent Hi-Railers Midwest Division, Heritage N-Track, Hi-Rail Modular Club, Kane County Model RR Club, L.G.B. Model R.R. Club of Chicago, Lionel Modular Train Club Inc., Midwest Pioneer Model RR Club, NW Society of Model Engineers, North Shore and Western, Swallow Cliff Model RR, Treelady Trees, BSA Venture Crew 57 (Boy Scouts), Will County Model RR, Northern Illinois Lego Train Club, and Northwest Trainmasters. Little Obie, a scale model of a Canadian National Railway train featuring a locomotive; flatcar and caboose, will be featured. Little Obie educates children about rail safety.

The event will feature safety demonstrations and information from the Illinois State Police and Chicago Ridge Fire Safety House. Proceeds from the event benefit the music programs, including biennial trips to Disney World and purchase of equipment and supplies, at Richards. For more information, people may visit www.railroadshow.com or contact Richards band director Charles Martin at 708-499-2550, ext. 5096.

Chicago Ridge Public Library director receives an award

Kathleen McSwain, Director of the Chicago Ridge Public Library, has been selected as this year's recipient of the Robert R. McCarren Legislative Development Award. Kathy has been the organizer and planner for the Illinois Libraries and Legislator Breakfast hosted each April in Springfield.

The congenial atmosphere was so successful that Secretary of State Jessie White attended along with many other legislators and shared concerns and issues regarding Illinois Libraries. Kathy McSwain was instrumental in the success of the Save Illinois Libraries campaign which promoted library funding. Her presence is so well known across the states that she was able to secure hundreds of signers to contact their legislators regarding funding for Illinois Libraries.

In February 2010, Kathy helped promote the successful ILA | ALA sponsored "Snapshot of a Library". Libraries all over the country contributed photos and recorded statements of individuals visiting libraries proving the importance of public, school and specialty libraries in their respective communities.

Kathy has been the Chair of the newly formed Advocacy Committee for ILA and has been organizing workshops and writing articles advocating Illinois Libraries for several years. Kathy McSwain has proved herself a leader in advocacy and she exhibits leadership, imitative and commitment to Illinois Libraries.

The award will be presented at the Illinois Libraries Association Annual Conference Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, September 29, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at Navy Pier, Chicago, Illinois.

Worth Park District announcement

Join us for family fun for the entire family featuring inflatable's, games, face painting, edible crafts and pumpkin decorating. The hay wagon will be out for the entire family to enjoy a peaceful ride around the park. Also, we'll be hurling pumpkins in our Mini Pumpkin Launch. This event is FREE for all ages and takes place at Gale Moore Park (109th & Nordica Ave.) on Sat., October 2nd from 1:00–4:00PM. For more information, please call the Worth Park District at (708) 448-7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 18 | September 21, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

A TIF doesn't mean there's a TIFF about to break out.

by Ronald Ayers

When Midlothian President Terrence Stephens announced at Wednesday, September, 8 2010 Village board meeting that there was going to be a TIF happening in the village, I ducked down behind my chair in anticipation that Village Board members would start throwing chairs around, and gouging one another's eyes out.

The TIF that Mayor Stephens announced Wednesday is a tool units of local government use to create future gains in taxes to finance current improvements – which theoretically will create the conditions for those future gains. When a public project such as a road, school, or hazardous waste cleanup is carried out, there is often an increase in the value of surrounding real estate., and perhaps new investment – in the form of new or rehabilitated buildings'.

This increased site value and investment sometimes generates increased tax revenues. The increase tax revenues are the "tax increment." Tax Increment Financing, (TIF) dedicates tax increments within a certain defined district to finance debt issued to pay for the project. TIF is designed to channel funding toward improvements in distressed or underdeveloped areas where development might not otherwise occur. TIF creates funding for "public" projects that may otherwise be unaffordable to localities, by borrowing against future property tax revenues.

Today thousands of TIF districts operate nationwide in the US, from small and mid-sized cities, to the State of California, which invented tax increment financing in 1952. California maintains over four hundred TIF districts with an aggregate of over $10 billion per year in revenues, over $28 billion of long term debt, and over $674 billion of assessed land valuation. (Based on 2008 figures).

Forty-nine states and the District of Columbia have enabled legislation for tax increment financing. Arizona may be the only state without a tax increment financing law. While some states, such as California and Illinois, have used TIF for decades, many others have only recently passed or amended state laws that allow them to use this tool.

Since the 1970's a reduction in federal funding for redevelopment related activities including spending increases, restrictions on municipal bonds which are tax-exempt bonds and an administrative transference of urban policy to local, lower-level governments, has led many cities, such as Midlothian, to consider tax increment financing. State imposed caps on municipal property tax collections and limits on the amounts and types of city expenditures have also caused local governments to adopt funding strategies like this as a kind of loophole through the restrictions.

TIF districts are not without criticism. Although tax increment financing is one mechanism for local governments that does not directly rely on federal funds, some question whether TIF districts actually serve their resident populations. As investment in an area increases, it is not uncommon for real estate values to rise and for gentrification:

·A process in which low-cost, physically deterior-ated neighborhoods ex-perience physical renova tion and an increase in property values, along with an influx of wealthier residents who displace the neighborhood's original inhabitants.

·A process whereby private or government-sponsored development of certain aging neighbor-hoods results in the displacement of low, or moderate income families by the more affluent and leads to an increase in property values.

· A process in which a low cost and possibly deteriorating, neighbor-hood undergoes revitali-zation through reinvest-ment in its physical assets.

The Midlothian Village Board has adopted a TIF as a way of stimulating eco-nomic development, indicates that board members have their financing thinking caps on.

Midlothian Village Board opens internet portal to spur business growth announces TIF to create economic development.

Reporting: Ronald Ayers

Midlothian's Village Board took action at its board meeting Wednesday 9-8-2010 to spur business growth in the community by giving the treasurer authority to sign a contract that will open a portal by which local businesses and citizens can easily engage in commerce over the internet.

The three year contract with the west suburban firm WEB QA gives the software development company the right to design what is termed a "City Portal". The portal will help a business with its marketing and sales efforts by providing them with a mini-web page through which they can advertise their products and services, and consumers from Midlothian and throughout the south suburbs can "let their fingers do the walking along their computer keyboards" to locate sales, coupons, and bargains.

"WEB QA is a great idea that the village will aggressively promote through our Chamber of Commerce," said Village President Terrence Stephens.

"The total cost of the program to the Village is ten thousand five hundred dollars ($10,500.00). Midlothian will be a testing ground for the company's product," said Killelea, "and Midlothian will be unique in probably being the first municipality in the south suburbs with such a program."

Trustee Killelea said that there will be no cost to local businesses, nor will there be a cost to Midlothian residents to use the "City Portal."

"When a company applies for a business license they will be signed up on the spot for their own mini-web page. We will even train the business owner in how to install their own information into their mini-websites," Said Killelea.

"It is our hope that by implementing what is essentially a search engine system, we will help our local businesses drive more business to themselves and draw more business from sources outside Midlothian."

In other business:

Mayor Stephens read a resolution adopted August 30th 2010 from the Joint Review Board (JRB) that puts Midlothian on the road to forming a Tax Increment Finance District t TIF) for certain property on and near 147th and Cicero.

TIF's are tools used by units of local government as a means to stimulate business growth and job creation. Mayor Stephens said the TIF will be a twenty three year t23) endeavor during which taxing bodies such as Bremen Township, School District 142, and the Midlothian Park District will accept current tax revenues from Midlothian even though property tax assessments may rise.

"The difference between current tax revenues, and what those revenues might be in the future based on increased tax assessments is the capital that the village can use today to make improvements in the village, or to assist a developer to bring a new business into the community." Said Stephens.

According to Mayor Stephens there are currently two developers interested in bringing projects to the city that can benefit from a TIF. However, Stephens was unwilling to disclose who those developers are at this time.

"The TIF will not become active," said Stephens "until a developer comes to us and demonstrates something by way of a viable project that can actually happen."

Mayor Stephens said that Village Officials will begin talks with local banks such as A.J. Smith regarding monetization of the TIF. Stephen said monetization will entail the village obtaining investment bonds that will convert the anticipated increase in tax revenues over the next 23 years into dollars the village can use today.

"We'll try to keep all money deals local," said Stephens.

Stephens said there will be a public hearing October 1, 2010 at 3:30 pm to further discuss the TIF.

The next Midlothian Village Board meeting is Wednesday September 22, 2010 at 7:30 PM in Midlothian Village Hall 14801 S. Pulaski

Midlothian Library announces program

On Wednesday, September 29th at 2:00 pm, the Midlothian Public Library, 14701 S. Kenton Ave., will present "Find Hidden Job Leads Online & at the Library". There's a wealth of free and low-cost job relevant information available to job seekers that can be used to improve the effieiency of a search and potentially secure a new job faster. During this webinar, participants will learn what researeh and job information tools are available both online and off and how to incorporate these tools into their seareh strategy. This webinar is provided by Tutor.com. To register call 708-535-2027 and ask for the Reference Desk.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 7 | October 5, 2010

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Oak Lawn receives Green Team update

by Matt Mayer

Trustee Alex Olejniczak gave an update regarding the Green Team at the Sept. 9 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting. There will now be a permanent E-waste collection location beginning Oct.9 at the Public Works garage at 5532 W. 98th Street. All residential electronic waste, sneh as computers, TV's and varions electronic appliances, will be collected. Additional information as well as upcoming Green Team events may he obtained by calling the municipal building at 636-4400 or by visiting the village website at www.oaklawnil.gov.

The Green Team has also partnered with Dr. Sandra Bury, an optometrist, in an effort to collect old glasses for the needy, glasses will be collected in the municipal building, library as well as various stores in the village. The glasses will be refurbished and distributed to anyone in need.

Additional information may be obtained hy visiting Vosh/International, Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity at www.vosh.org.

Mayor Dave Heilmann read an American Recycles Day proclamation, which emphasized the need recycling, and the use of recycled prodnets. Of date the villages' recycling collections have been snecessful with several tons of waste collected and recycled.

Village Manager Larry Deetjen announced that the Stony Creek Bike Path now under construction is designed to connect with Alsip's bike path. This will make it possible for other communities to also connect to have a continuous path to the Cal-Sag Trail.

The Senior leaf- raking program is currently accepting applications as well as the senior snow-shoveling program, from Dec. 1 to March 1, 2011.

Seniors and volunteers are encouraged to call the municipal center at 636--4400. The programs allow students to fulfill their community service commitments.

Slain Police Officer received proclamation from Evergreen Park

by Matt Mayer

The Evergreen Park Police Department Honor Guard performed the presentation of colors at the Sept. 7 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting. Police Chief Michael Saunders introduced the family of slain police officer, Thomas E. Wortham IV; Mr. Thomas Wortham III, Mrs. Carolyn Wortham, Ms. Sander Wortham, dear friend Caitlan and Great Aunt Betty. Saunders acknowledged Chicago Police Superintendent, Jodi Weis, who was in attendance. Mayor James Sexton read the proclamation honoring Officer Wortham, who began his law enforcement career with the Village of Evergreen Park on September 16, 2006 and resigned in May 2007 and began his career with the Chicago Police Department on June 4, 2007. He completed 2 tours of duty in Iraq with his platoon in the Wisconsin National Guard while assigned to the 007th District of the Chicago Police Department. Saunders stated in honor and memory of Thomas Wortham IV, his Evergreen Park Police Star #139 is retired, as declared by Mayor Sexton of the Village of Evergreen Park.

Saunders' thanked Sexton and the board for the proclamation. He read a portion of General Order 11-79 dated September 7, 2010, declaring Star #139 officially retired. Saunders presented the retired star, a copy of the proclamation honoring Wortham's service to the Village and a Village flag on behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Evergreen Park Police Department, to the Wortham family. Saunders also said Wortham will never be forgotten and his star will always shine brightly. Guard then proceeded to the retiring of colors and escorted the Wortham family from the Council Chambers to Fire Department for a post ceremony. Every one in attendance was invited to the fire department for food and refreshments

According to the Officer Down Memorial Page, Inc. Officer Thomas Wortham, 30, was shot and killed after identifying himself as a police officer on May 19, 2010, when four subjects attempted to rob him while he was off duty at 11:25 p.m. Wortham was visiting his parents' home to show them pictures from the previous week's Police Week activities that he attended in Washington. As he was leaving, four men approached and attempted to rob him of his motorcycle. Wortham drew his service weapon and fired at the suspects. But Wortham was fatally shot in the abdomen. He was transported to Advocate Christ Hospital were he was pronounced dead shortly after midnight.

Wortham's father, a retired Chicago police sergeant, witnessed the shooting and exchanged shots with the suspects. One was killed; another was seriously wounded while the two remaining males fled in a vehicle. All three suspects have been charged with first-degree murder.

Wortham had served with the Chicago Police Department for nearly three years and was assigned to the Englewood District. Wortham Chicago Police Badge number is 6181.

Lipinski Helps Pass Small Business Jobs Act to Promote Job Creation

by Providing Tax Relief and Increased Access to Credit for Small Businesses

Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-3) helped pass the Small Business Jobs Act, H.R. 5297, to create jobs by providing $12 billion in tax relief and increased access to credit for small businesses. The vote in the House of Representatives was 237 to 187 and the President is expected to quickly sign the measure into law.

"Small businesses form the backbone of the Third District's economy, create nearly two-thirds of new jobs nationally, and are key to the recovery," Congressman Lipinski said. "But with the economy still stalled and loans hard to come by even for those with good track records, action is needed to remove barriers to growth. That's why I voted to lower the tax burden for small businesses and help them obtain the credit they need to expand their operations, invest in new equipment, and hire new workers."

Among numerous provisions reducing small businesses' tax burden, the bill allows businesses to write off half the cost of capital expenditures in 2010, and allows business owners to deduct the cost of their health insurance when calculating self-employment tax in 2010. It also substantially increases Small Business Administration loan limits and eliminates certain SBA loan fees.

H.R. 5297, which is fully paid for and will not add to the deficit, authorizes making up to $30 billion available to community banks and local lending institutions to spur them to deploy their own resources and boost lending to small businesses. The bill encourages increased lending and quick repayment by banks by lowering the interest rate they pay on the funds if they increase small-business lending, and increasing it if they fail to lend. It also includes strong oversight provisions to protect taxpayers.

In addition, the bill includes a measure cosponsored by Congressman Lipinski that authorizes the Treasury Department to direct up to $1.5 billion to state programs that increase lending to small employers. Funding under this program would be distributed to states based on a formula that takes into account each state's job losses, resulting in significant funding for Illinois' small businesses.

"I continue to focus on helping the private sector to create jobs, while fighting against unnecessary spending," said Congressman Lipinski, who voted against the $700 billion Wall Street bailout and the $1 trillion health care bill and did not support the $814 billion stimulus. "In today's economic climate, we need to make life easier for business owners, not harder, and that's exactly what this bill will do. However, I recognize more work remains to be done. Unfortunately, the Senate did not agree to include a provision in this bill to eliminate a measure in the health care reform law requiring businesses to file an IRS 1099 form for every vendor paid more than $600 annually. I voted to get rid of that burdensome requirement previously and will continue to work to eliminate it so that small businesses can focus on turning a profit instead of turning in unnecessary paperwork."

Editor's Note

Attn: All Small Businesses!

Contact your Congressman regarding the new tax laws for Small Business Corporations! More Job losses!

EDGAR ENDORSES BRADY FOR GOVERNOR

On the eve of the first public gubernatorial campaign debate, former Illinois Governor Jim Edgar endorsed Bill Brady for Governor, saying Brady will restore fiscal discipline to manage the state budget, reverse out of control spending that threatens the state's financial solvency, and will support economic policies designed to bring greater promise and prosperity back to Illinois.

"Bill Brady is the candidate most qualified to change the reckless fiscal attitudes we've seen for too long in Springfield," said Edgar, the state's 38th Governor. "From discussing this with him, I know he will stop spending more money than the state takes in and bring fiscal responsibility back to state government. As a businessman, he understands the impact of state budget policy on job creation and will put in place policies that once again encourage business investment in our state."

"We need a change in Illinois government, and Bill Brady will bring that change. I strongly endorse Bill Brady for Governor," he said.

Brady said he's honored to have Edgar's endorsement, and pledged the same fortitude as the former Governor in addressing severe budget challenges. Edgar served two terms as Governor from 1991-1999 before retiring from elected office. He inherited a $1 billion state budget deficit and when he left office, the state had a checkbook balance of $1.5 billion.

"If I am fortunate enough to be elected Governor, I will follow the example set by Governor Edgar," Brady said. "He prioritized and cut state spending, curbed programs that were not producing the needed results, and returned fiscal discipline to Illinois government."

Edgar is the latest in a series of recent Brady endorsements. Others include the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Manufacturers Association, National Federation of Independent Business, Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, the Illinois Fraternal Order of Police, ABATE, and former Governors Jeb Bush of Florida, Mike Huckabee of Arkansas, and Tim Pawlenty of Minnesota.

Veterans benefit to expire

Military members whose service was involuntarily extended, or whose retirement was suspended between September 11, 2001 and September 30, 2009, due to stop loss are entitled to retroactive payments of $500 for each month they were extended, according to Department of Defense officials. But the deadline to receive those benefits is rapidly drawing to a close. The deadline to apply for the benefits is October 21, 2010.

"You served with honor. You did your duty. And when your country called on you again, you did your duty again. Now, it's time to collect the special pay that you deserve," said President Barack Obama in a recent White House announcement.

Only about 58,000 of the 135,000 eligible claims have been paid, leaving more than $40 million available to eligible veterans. The average payout for each veteran is close to $4,000.

The president said that the program has caused some confusion and skepticism among those who have served. "Some veterans think this is some sort of gimmick or scam, or that it's a way for the government to roll you back to service. Nothing is further from the truth. You worked hard. You earned this money. It doesn't matter whether you were active or reserve, whether you're a veteran who experienced 'Stop Loss' or the survivor of a service member who did – if your service was extended, you're eligible," said Obama.

The 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act established the Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay and throughout the past year the services have been reaching out to eligible veterans, service members and their families through direct mail, veteran service organizations and the media. But by law there is no authorization to make payments on claims submitted after October 21, 2010.

Eligible members should print, complete and sign Department of Defense Form 2944, Claim for Retroactive Stop Loss Payment. They must then select the appropriate method for submitting their claim form based upon their service requirements. The information can be found on their service's stop loss web site, accessible from www.defense.gov/home features/2010/0710_stoploss/, or call: Army: 1877) 736-5554; Navy: 1901) 874-4427; Marine Corps: 1877) 242-2830 and Air Force: 1800) 525-0102.

Pictured from the left are Vice President William Dougherty, Officers Jason McFadden and John Moss, President Mark Donahue.

Mark Donahue, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, presented the Distinguished Service Award to Chicago Police

Officers John Moss and Jason McFadden were working in the 003rd, District. While on patrol, the officers observed several subjects running northbound across the train tracks at 7100 S. Paxton . At that same time the above officers observed an M/I, who would later be identified as Dashaun Winston, firing a handgun at the location of 7100 S. Paxton . Officers Moss and McFadden then observed Winston begin to flee while armed with a large caliber revolver. The officers gave chase, Officer McFadden on foot and Officer Moss in a marked police vehicle.

Officer McFadden related to Officer Moss over the police radio that the offender just ran into the alley of 7100 S. Merrill and still had the gun in his hand. Officer Moss, still in a marked police vehicle, pulled behind offender Wilson and noticed a chrome revolver in his right hand. As Officer Moss pulled alongside of Winston, he turned to Moss and raised the chrome revolver. Officer Moss, in fear for his life, began to fire on Winston.

Officer McFadden saw his partner Moss engaging the offender, at which time McFadden began to fire on the offender as well striking the offender several times, fatally wounding him and eliminating the threat. Recovered from the scene was one .44 caliber revolver.

Donahue stated, "Due to these officers' determination, bravery and courage in a difficult situation, a dangerous criminal was removed from the streets of the City of Chicago." Donahue conclude, "It is with great appreciation that the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, presents Officers John Moss and Jason McFadden with the Distinguished Service Award."

Alsip's Senior Citizens facility to get new roofs and gutters

by Ronald Ayers

The Alsip Village board approved by voice acclimation a consensus to move forward with awarding a bid to perform roofing and gutter work on the Heritage II Senior Citizens buildings during its regular board meeting held Monday September 27, 2010 in Alsip's Village Hall, 4500 West 123rd street.

The three hundred and forty four unit Heritage II Senior Citizens facility, which is owned by the Village of Alsip, is located at 3715 W. 123rd Street.

The Heritage II bid calls for new roofs on twelve buildings, and new gutters on fifteen of the buildings.

The boards agreement to move forward with awarding for Heritage II was taken after much discussion earlier in the evening in the Village's Properties Committee.

Speaking during the Properties Committee meeting, Trustee Steven Daddona said nineteen bid packets were let out on the roofing project.

"Six companies returned bids that ranged from eight hundred and eighty five thousand to one million seven hundred sixty thousand dollars," Said Daddona.

The lowest bidder on the project, an Alsip company, could not live up to the bid performance specifications and therefore, according to Daddona should not be awarded the bid.

Doddona said that American Exteriors of Lake Zurich, Illinois, which was the second highest bidder at Nine hundred twenty four thousand dollars could live up to the sixty percent self performance specification of the bid, and could also guarantee a twenty five year warranty on the roofing work.

Trustee Kevin Michaels, chairman of the properties committee recommended that the committee present its findings to the village board, and recommend that the Heritage II roofing bid be let to American Exteriors of Lake Zurich. The discussions of the Property Committee were presented to Village Board during the regular board meeting.

After some brief discussion of the merits of American Exterior's bid, The board came to a consensus to move forward with awarding a bid for Heritage II.

A formal roll call vote to award the bid is expected sometime in October.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
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Owner Editor Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to – vvnew@sbcglobal.net

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Lioness Club holds 2nd annual Ladies Night Out

The Willow Springs Lioness Club plans to hold their Second Annual Ladies Night Out Shopping Extravaganza, Thursday, October 14, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event will take place at the Willowbrook Ballroom located at 8900 South Archer Avenue in Willow Springs, IL.

During the evening, ladies can splurge on the newest and greatest in beauty products, fashion apparel, household decor and gourmet goodies.

With specialty exhibitors all under one roof, it is sure to make this event pure shopping heaven. A $5.00 entrance fee will give access to shopping with more then 35 vendors, mini spa services, light hors D'oeuvres and a cash bar. Patrons will also be able to purchase tickets for an ongoing raffle with more then 30 prizes including restaurant gift certificates, sporting tickets and museum passes and so much more. Raffle tickets are $1.00 each and winners need not be present.

There are no presale entrance nor raffle tickets. Proceeds from the event help the Willow Springs Lioness Club support a number of worthy organizations including, American Diabetes Association Canine Companions for Independence The Chicago Lighthouse for the Blind and CRIS Radio Local Educational Scholarships, two annual $500 scholarships, International Hearing Dog, Inc. Leader Dog for the Blind Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic University of Illinois Eye Research, Willow Springs Food Pantry and Willow Springs Park Committee.

For more information, visit the Willow Springs Lioness Club on Facebook.

Quinn Union Deal: Election year pay to play

Secret Agreement Guarantees Costly Pay Hikes at Taxpayer Expense

Republican Gubernatorial Candidate Bill Brady today called on Pat Quinn to renounce a secret deal with state employee union leaders, calling it an apparent example of old pay-to-play politics that will cost taxpayers millions.

"This secret, backroom deal reminds voters of pay-to-play politics," Brady said. "It ties the hands of the next governor to fix this economic catastrophe, and proves Pat Quinn is more concerned about his political crisis than our fiscal crisis."

Reports yesterday revealed that Quinn's office and leaders of AFSCME, the state employee union, struck a deal at almost the same time union leaders endorsed the Governor's re-election bid. The deal mandates increased state pay hikes, job security and no layoff guarantees in exchange for promises of future, but limited budget efficiencies.

Brady also raised the fact that the state's budget director apparently helped negotiate the deal and also sat in on the endorsement session.

"Illinois should be outraged that the same budget aide that received a $24,000 pay hike from Pat Quinn was present at a political endorsement session with the very union leaders with whom he's negotiating an agreement that mandates even more pay hikes.

"Unfortunately, this is part of a disturbing pattern we've seen from Pat Quinn," Brady said. "He should embrace every cost-cutting measure possible, work with union leaders to freeze salaries, and avoid eleventh hour, election-year agreements that lock in more pay hikes and job security guarantees in an arrangement that reminds voters of the very pay-to-play politics that I seek to end"

Brady (R-Bloomington) is a small business owner who has represented his community as state Senator since 2002. He is running for governor to bring a clean break to Illinois and build a job growing environment. More information can be found at www.bradyforillinois.com.

Brother Rice Mothers' Club To Host "We Are BR: A Celebration of New Beginnings"

Annual Fashion Show Planned for Doubletree Hotel in Alsip

The Brother Rice Mothers' Club will roll out the white carpet on Sunday, November 7, 2010 when the group holds its annual fashion show, entitled "We Are BR: A Celebration of New Beginnings." This primary fundraiser of the Mothers' Club benefits Brother Rice High School in Chicago.

New winter fashions will be provided by Annie's Ltd, Coldwater Creek, Catherine's, Ladoli Mode, Boss Formalwear and the Brother Rice Book Store.

Tickets are $40 each and include lunch, entertainment and a cash bar. The last day to buy tickets is October 24.

The many raffle prizes include a gift certificate to a southwest Michigan Bed and Breakfast, cash, an aviation adventure for four and a number of sports ticket packages with parking.

Fashion show reservation and raffle ticket forms are available at the Parents/Mothers' Club link at www.brotherrice.org. Call Anne at 708/927-3382 for tickets and further information.

Don't Forget to Advertise for Halloween.
Call 312-624-8996

Lake Katherine information

Saturday, October 16, 2010 - Fall Fishing Classic Come fish the entire shoreline (all sides) winning cash prizes for largest muskie, largemouth bass, walleye, channel catfish, and bluegill! This fundraiser to support the mission of Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Gardens is limited to 125 anglers, first-come first served!Cost: Donation of $100 which includes a barbecue at noon!Max: 125 peopleFor more information call (708)361-1873

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Call Village View Newspapers to advertise in 4 Free Newspapers, in 18 South Suburban Communities. You can also ad your pictures in Color.
Call Linda 312-624-8996
vvnew@sbcglobal.net.

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Come join all your favorite Home-Based Businesses & Crafter's for a fun day of shopping and sharing.

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Pass on Parties Tastefully Simple Party Plus Tupperware Mary Kay & Brighas and More Vendors

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FREE *Invisalign*
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Calling All Scandinavian Park, Inc NFP Members & Friends
You're cordially invited to the

10th Annual Vasa Park Fish Boil & Harvest Fest

Saturday, October 16, 2010 ~ 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Presented by Scandinavian Park, Inc. NFP • Vasa Park, Route 31 South Elgin, IL
(7 Miles South of I-90 Northwest Tollway & 5 Miles North of IL Rt. 64 North Ave.)
CASH BAR OPEN AT 1pm
The "Boil" will take place at 2 p.m. serving immediately following
HOT DOGS ALSO AVAILABLE
All the "Fixens" plus coffee and dessert are included for donations of:
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beyond ordinary

by J. Haymaker

Israel

Because I am a Christian and believe that only God Almighty knows the future, only he can pass it to us. Our task is simply to give it to who it can help.

Because of my past premonitions, I wanted to find out if something like that would happen during a trip to Israel . I had not previously visited the holy land and its famous sites. The reasons then for my trip were two-fold, yet I wanted to keep it simple going through customs when I entered at Tel Aviv, Ben Gurion Airport . I stated I was a visitor and had no problem being admitted. In retrospect, I should have done like-wise on my second trip there.

Like most foreign trips I take, I don't normally make advance reservations at hotels. I had a return ticket for the last day of the month January 30. This would give me twenty days to wander around and explore this amazing land. That might seem like a long time to people accustomed to whirlwind tours but seemed like a short time to me. I think the year was 2004.

Most people would know of the conflict between the Israel people and the Palestinians. It seemed to me that God had set it up and it would take him to settle it. I had a simple plan. If I was shown by premonitions where attacks on Israel 's population would take place next, I could report it and help save lives. It had to be naive of me to think that the police would use the information before hand. I'm probably not the first person to attempt that sort of thing there.

The age-old dispute between these two groups is this: In the Torah, (the Hebrew bible) God gave the land of Israel to the Israelites forever. They were ordered to commit genocide against the people on the land at that time. They allowed some of them to live and now there are five million of them there. The Hebrew community numbers about five hundred thousand. A ten to one advantage held by the Palestinians. The mortality rate (in the conflict) of Palestinians to Israeli's is roughly the same as the ratio between them. The Israeli government has the support of the U.S. government and so has military superiority over the Palestinian people.

It doesn't help that Israeli settlers are always edging the Palestinians into a smaller and smaller corner by consistently building new settlements on their land. That would be like me going and building a house on an Indian reservation claiming God told me to possess the land. Neither side will relinquish the right to own and possess all the land or to share it with the other people. Neither side can kill all the people on the other side without the international community's wrath. Both sides have outside monetary support they use to continue the conflict. If the Israeli's had knowledge of all the attacks and could stop them. This would give the Israeli's a way out of the present situation. The conflict continues to this day.

I had been in Israel fifteen days when this happened in Tel Aviv. While walking near the beach, I was crossing a street and had a premonition that "the next attack would be in Hebron ! This disturbed me because the only attacks in Hebron were focused on the Israeli military. Hebron is a West Bank town and the thought of getting in the middle of a firefight between the two sides wasn't how I'd hoped this to work. I can't help much if I'm dead. It would take some really strong faith to expect God to protect me from all the bombs and bullets. It's not that he couldn't do it, he can; but that's a fairly strong test of my faith!

I went back to my lodging and spoke with the manager. I explained the situation and how I had known about the Trade Center attack before it occurred. I requested that he note in the hotel register, " Hebron " as the next attack location to document this information.

I contemplated going to Hebron to find out the exact place. Maybe I could get to the patrol and warn them of an ambush. I never intended to go to the West Bank when I was thinking about the trip before-hand. Although many of the Holy sites are in the West Bank territory, I thought I could avoid going there by limiting my touring to the sites outside there. I guess my faith needs some strengthening.

I didn't expect the Israeli military to be any more co-operative then when I went to the police during the sniper shootings in Washington , DC . I was in another country and torture might just be part of the package even if I was just trying to help. At least I had documented the information and told some other people at the hostel. The hostel name was the same as the street name and number Hayarkon 48 in Tel Aviv. The attack happened two days later in Hebron where three solders on patrol were ambushed and killed. The hostel manager told me I was right after he heard it on the news.

I had been to a nightclub the previous evening called " Mikes Place ". While I was sitting at a table there, I had a premonition that it would be attacked in two months! This was five days before I had to catch my flight back to the United States . I told the hostel manager about the premonition. I can't remember if he made a note of it in the hostel register but he probably did after finding out I was right about the first attack. I told him I was going to report it to authorities before I left the country.

Now I'm well aware that reporting a terror attack when exiting Israel has to be at the very top of the list of things not to do but when you know the information is correct and it can save lives there should be an exception to that rule. I was at the airport speaking to an official who questioned me about my visit. I explained about coming to tour the country and then went into the area of my premonitions. At that point she gestured to some solders stationed there to speak with me. I related to them how I had premonitions before fatal accidents and terror attacks in the United States . I indicated my desire to help safeguard the lives of people in Israel and provided the name and date of the attack so they could do something about it. I asked them to call my hostel and speak with the manager to verify that I was correct about the attack in Hebron .

I don't know if the solders made the report as I requested but the attack happened as I had fore-told. Two people were killed in the attack. One is usually the suicide bomber so maybe my report helped. Usually quite a few people are killed when an attack happens. I made a return trip to Israel after the attack happened and was refused entry into the country. I guess I'm banned from Israel !

The first time I returned from Israel the U.S. Customs Service asked me what had happened at the airport in Tel Aviv. I repeated what I had told the solders in Tel Aviv and the man recorded it on a compute file. The second time I returned and told him I had gone to speak with someone because my first report was correct and he recorded this also and told me I could leave. (Someone in the back room must have looked up my first report and two agents came running up to me). They knew the terror attack information was correct! They asked me how I knew, even though I had stated how in the report. They did not like my explanation that it was a premonition and that I probably could do it again and again. They obviously were not allowed to accept information obtained in that way. President Obama changed U.S policy to allow U.S. agencies to accept information from ordinary Americans. This is the first change he announced after he was sworn into office. I think I finally got through to someone. Maybe it will help in the future if I have some important information to report to authorities.

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St. Laurence High School Mothers' Club

All Dabber Super Bingo

Total Payout $2250

Sunday October 10, 2010

St. Laurence High School
5358 W. 77th Street, Burbank (77th & Central Ave)
Entrance and Parking at the North end of the building
Tickets $20.00

Doors Open 12:00 noon, Games begin @ 2:00pm.

Pull Tabs * Great Food * Bake Sale * Free Coffee
Plenty of parking

For tickets or more details, call Mothers' Club 708-458-6800 ext 411 or email momsclub@stlaurence.com
Mark your payment envelope: Mothers Club All Dabber Super Bingo
Limited tickets available at the door - Cash only at door

the lynn sage foundation CHICAGO'S & BREAST

The Lynn Sage Foundation, a Chicago-based organization committed to finding a cure for breast cancer, would like to thank our 2010 Fundraising Partners. Their generous commitment benefits the Lynn Sage Scholars program at Northwestern University.

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LEONA'S - LAKE VIEW, ROGER'S PARK & WICKER PARK
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www.lynnsagefoundation.org

MetroSouth Medical Center one of the first in Chicagoland to provide Resynchronization Implant for patients at risk for sudden death

Last week the FDA approved the use of cardiac resynchronization implants for patients with mild heart failure, due to the high risk of sudden death and stroke plaguing those patients. MetroSouth Medical Center was among the first in Chicagoland to offer the protective device to this newly eligible patient population.

In fact, Dr. Sean Tierney's first patient to be treated under the FDA's revised guidelines knows those risks all too well. Both her sister and her niece died of sudden death, secondary to congestive heart failure. Dr. Sean Tierney, fellowship-trained cardiologist and electrophysiologist at MetroSouth Medical Center implanted the resynchronization device in the 83-year old Alsip resident's heart on Tuesday, September 21, 2010. The following morning she was discharged for home. The patient reports that she's "delighted with the peace of mind this new device provides. I always worried about my chance of sudden death like my sister. I also look forward to having more energy to get back on the golf course. It's something I've missed the past couple of years because of the congestive heart failure."

Heart failure impacts 5.7 million people in the United States and results in about 300,000 deaths each year. In fact more than 50% of patients diagnosed with congestive heart failure will die within 5 years. Those that survive may be plagued with shortness of breath, fatigue, swelling of the ankles, feet, abdomen as well as a nagging cough. Even patients with mild or asymptomatic disease are at increased risk of cardiac arrest and stroke. Because of these alarming statistics and the high death rate in this population, heart specialists like Dr Tierney applaud the FDA's decision which allows for the proactive treatment of his patients with early stages of heart failure. "Patients with heart failure are at significant risk for sudden death," comments Dr. Tierney. "I now have a proven protective device to offer my patients."

As a result of the FDA's decision last Thursday, now millions more Americans with even mild forms of heart failure may benefit from a device called an implantable cardiac resynchronization therapy defibrillator (CRT-D). CRT-D's are specifically designed pacemakers/defibrillators for patients with congestive heart failure that coordinate the heart's four chambers to act together as team, making them pump blood more efficiently. The FDA's decision to approve CRT-Ds for asymptomatic or mild heart failure was based on the landmark MADIT-CRT[1] clinical trial. The trial results demonstrated that Boston Scientific's CRT-Ds were associated with a 57 percent relative reduction in the risk of death or first heart failure event in this patient population.

Patients that qualify for the procedure, estimated at approximately 40% of the population with heart failure, will undergo a routine procedure under local, twilight anesthesia by a cardiologist trained electrophysiologist like Dr. Tierney. The procedure is similar to that of a traditional pacemaker, and typically takes between one and two hours. Patients stay in the hospital overnight and may return to normal activities within the week.

A CRT-D is a small implantable device that improves the heart's pumping ability by delivering small electrical impulses that help synchronize contractions of the left ventricle, the heart's main pumping chamber. CRT-Ds also monitor the heart for potentially fatal heart rhythms. If such a rhythm is detected, the CRT-D delivers a lifesaving shock to restore normal heart rhythm and prevent sudden cardiac death, which occurs more frequently in patients with heart failure.

MetroSouth Medical Center (MSMC), which provides advanced cardiac intervention procedures and offers a state of the art heart catherization and electrophysiology lab, is recognized as a Chicago leader in outstanding cardiac care. Thirty years ago the hospital was among the first in the Chicago to offer angioplasty. Since then, more than 15,000 angioplasties and more than 12,000 open heart surgeries, have been performed at MSMC.

If you have heart disease and want a second opinion or are at risk for heart disease, call 708-489-7925 for a MetroSouth Medical Center cardiologist referral.

Southwest Community Services announce their programs

Tuesday, October 12

SCS Tuesday Night Weekly Bingo Columbus Day Celebration and The Gold Refinery

Southwest Community Services, Inc., (SCS), 6775 Prosperi Drive, Tinley Park, hosts weekly Tuesday Night Bingo. Free baked chicken dinner by Munch & Lunch for all paid bingo players. The Gold Refinery will purchase your unwanted gold and silver. Doors open at 5:00 pm, early bird games at 6:30, bingo at 7:00. Paper, computer, raffle, progressive, pull tabs, full concessions. Please, no outside food. Free coffee. Wheel chair accessible, air-conditioned, lighted parking.

Tuesday, October 19

SCS Tuesday Night Weekly Bingo

Please, no outside food. Free coffee. Wheel chair accessible, air conditioned, lighted parking. For additional information, visit us on Facebook, or www.swcsinc.org or call 708-429-1260 ext-4. SCS is a nonprofit organization providing services and programs to children and adults with developmental and physical disabilities and mental illness. Wheel chair accessible. SCS is located on south Oak Park Avenue, across the street from CarMax and the I-80 flea market, just north of First Midwest Bank Amphitheater.

Tuesday, October 26

SCS Tuesday Night Weekly Bingo Halloween Party Southwest Community Services, Inc., (SCS), 6775 Prosperi Drive, Tinley Park, hosts weekly Tuesday Night Bingo. Special prizes for best costumes and free dauber for all players. Doors open at 5:00 pm, early bird games at 6:30, bingo at 7:00. Paper, computer, raffle, progressive, pull tabs, full concessions.

Chamber members visit Smith Crossing

Members from the Tinley Park , Orland Park Area and Southland Chamber of Commerce enjoyed the hospitality of Smith Crossing at the recent multi-chamber Business-After-Hours event hosted by the senior living center. Smith Crossing offers four senior living options, Independent Living, Assisted Living, Alzheimer's and Memory Support and Skilled Nursing Care and Rehabilitation.

For more information on becoming a member of the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce please call (708) 349-2972 or visit their website at www.orlandparkchamber.org.

Alsip-Merrionelle Park Public Library announces computer program

Each computer class is $10 non refundable. This year our classes are offered on a "first-come, first served basis." The first 15 people to sign-in and pay at the Reference Desk on the day of the class can attend. Meeting room doors will open at 9:45 A.M. John Hojek is the instructor.

Beginning Internet. For beginners who are unfamiliar with the Internet. Friday, October 15 10 A.M. until 2 P.M.

To register, call 708-371-5666 ext. 108

Sweetest Day is October 16th, Book Now!

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Friday 11am-2pm 4pm-11pm, Saturday 4pm-11pm, Sunday 3pm-9pm

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3 Hot Dogs & 1 Large Fry
$4.99

Expires October 18, 2010.
Must mention & present coupon when ordering.

3 Beef Tacos
& 1 Large Fry
$4.99

Expires October 18, 2010.
Must mention & present coupon when ordering.

Little Company of Mary breaks ground to Feature Southwest Chicago Area's First Women's Health Center

From Left: Dennis Day, Vice President, LCM Support Services; John Daley, Cook County Board of Commissioners; James J. Sexton, Mayor of Evergreen Park; Dennis Reilly, LCM President and CEO; Bishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller, M.Sp.S.; Sr. Kathleen McIntyre, LCM, Chairperson of the Board of Directors; Daniel Rowan, D.O., LCM Medical Staff President; Kevin Rehder, Vice President Clinical Services & Project Manager for the Campus Transformation Project; Thomas Fahey, Little Company of Mary Board of Directors; David J. Cavanaugh, Cochair for Values.

Jazzercise offers Fab Abs Pilates Style

Oak Lawn and Chicago–Mt. Greenwood , Illinois - October, 2010 – Jazzercise, the world's leading dance fitness program, is offering a new group fitness class for a limited time only - "Fab Abs Pilates Style." This 50-minute specialty class targets core muscles to tone, tighten and strengthen the midsection

Beginning Wednesday October 13, Fab Abs Pilates Style will be offered at Jazzereise in Mt. Greenwood at the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences located at 3857 West 111th Street at 6:25 p.m. as well as on Saturday at 9:45 a.m. In addition, Fab Abs Pilates Style will also be offered in Oak Lawn at Grace Community Church located at 10415 S. Kedvale beginning on Friday, October 15 at 10:15 a.m. A great workout to build flexibility, strength and endurance while tightening the tummy, Fab Abs Pilates Style includes six classes for $60.

For further information, go to jazzercise.com or call 800-FIT-IS-IT or Cindy Lunz at 773/238-7716.

About Jazzercise

Judi Sheppard Missett, who turned her love of jazz dance into a worldwide dance exercise phenomenon, founded the Jazzereise dance fitness program in 1969. Judi has advanced the business opportunities of women and men in the fitness industry by growing the program into an international franchise business that today, hosts a network of 7,800 instructors teaching more than 32,000 classes weekly in 32 countries.

The workout program, which offers a fusion of jazz dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kickboxing and Latin-style movements, has positively affected millions of people worldwide. Benefits include increased cardiovascular endurance, strength, and flexibility, as well as an overall "feel good" factor. Additional Jazzercise programs include Junior Jazzercise, Jazzercise Lite and Personal Touch.

For more information, contact Lunz at 773/238-7716. For further information and worldwide class information, go to jazzereise.com or call (800) FIT-IS-IT.

Worth Park District announces programs

"Nightmare at the Terrace" Haunted House

The Worth Park District will once again be turning the Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit) into a place full of scares, thrills and chills for the 2nd annual "Nightmare at the Terrace" Haunted House. If you dare, take your chances and walk through this 10+ room of terrors. If you are interested in volunteering for the haunted house, contact the park District. This haunted house is recommended for ages 8+ and opens Friday, October 22nd – Sunday, October 24th from 6 - 10:00 PM. The haunted house will be open again Thursday, October 28 – Sunday, October 31st. The cost for this haunted house is $6.00 per person. For more information, please contact the Worth Park District at (708) 448 7080 or visit www.worthparkdistrict.org.

Lights on Haunted House

There will be a special "Lights On" engagement of the "Nightmare at the Terrace" (11500 S. Beloit) Haunted House letting the younger ones or more faint of heart see the spookiness in the bright light. Actors will not be popping out, but will be greeting the patrons and handing out candy. The "lights on" haunted house will be on Thursday, October 28 from 4 – 6:00 PM and again on Saturday, October 30 from 2 – 5:00 PM. The cost for the haunted house is $2.00 per person.

Soc Hop and Activity Night

Come on this **Friday, October 8** to Worth Park District's Soc Hop and Activity night to enjoy the latest music, socialize with friends and play some games. Wii, foosball, and bean bags will be a couple of the activities available. Concession will also be available at a small fee. This event is for grades 6 – 8 and will take place at the Terrace Centre (11500 S. Beloit) from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. The cost is $ 5.00 resident and $ 7.00 non-resident.

Mom and Son Game Night- NOVEMBER 5

Hey Mom's put on your gym shoes and join your son for a night of games and snacks at the Terrace Centre. Everyone will have the chance to participate in carnival type games, sports, and skill contests while enjoying pizza and ice cream sundae's. This event is for son's age 5 – 12 and takes place on Friday, November 5 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM. The cost per couple is $21.00 for residents and $31.50 for non-residents, and $7.00 per additional child. The deadline to register is October 29.

Kids Day Out

Out of school and need something to do? Join the Worth Park District's "Kids Day Out" program for a day of entertainment and fun. We will be going to different field trips every day that schools have a day off. The fee includes transportation, party package (which may include tokens, area admission and/or ride coupons) and lunch. Additional money for extra tokens or ride coupons may be brought if desired, but are at the responsibility of the child. Children will be off premise from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Our upcoming "Kids Day Out" will be on Monday, October 11. We will be traveling to Odyssey Fun World in Naperville. This program runs from 7:00 am, until 6:00 PM and costs $35.00 per child for ages 5 thrn 12. Register at the Worth Park District's. For more information, please call the Worth Park District at (708)-448-7080.

Coats needed for the coat drive in Evergreen Park

The Evergreen Park Youth Commission is sponsoring its annual coat drive. Any new or clean used coats, coats only please, can be dropped off at the Hamilton B. Maher Community Center at 3450 West 97 Street, Room #105, Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. starting October 1 to November 30, 2010.

For more information please call 708-229-3377.

Sweetest Day is October 16th, Book Now!

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Friday 11am-2pm 4pm-11pm, Saturday 4pm-11pm, Sunday 3pm-9pm

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Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
10806 S. Cicero, Oak Tree Plaza
Oak Lawn, IL

Chicago Red Hot Dog - Pure Beef
3 Hot Dogs & 1 Large Fry
$4.99

Expires October 18, 2010.
Must mention & present coupon when ordering.

3 Beef Tacos
& 1 Large Fry
$4.99
Expires October 18, 2010.
Must mention & present coupon when ordering.

New restaurant opening in the Chicago area in the fall

Saigon Sisters the inspired Vietnamese street food kiosk that has gained a strong following at the Chicago French Market, will expand its horizons in late fall 2010 with the opening of a full restaurant at 567 W. Lake Street (at Clinton) in Chicago's Fulton River District. The new location, Saigon Sisters Restaurant, will be open for counter service breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Saigon Sisters is the brainchild of sisters Mary Nguyen Aregoni and Theresa Nguyen. They were born in Laos, lived in Vietnam and Thailand as children and came to the United States with their family in 1976. "Our passion is to bring the delicious street foods we grew up with to Chicago, offering creative, contemporary interpretations but using authentic Southeast Asian ingredients," said Mary. "Saigon Sisters Restaurant will be a contemporary casual restaurant where our guests can enjoy deliciously fresh, quickly prepared food during breakfast and lunch and can come back to relax and enjoy a frequently changing menu of interesting small and large plates at dinnertime."

Saigon Sisters Restaurant, with a cozy atmosphere, will offer many of the delicious Pho (noodle), Banh Mi (sandwich) and Goi Cuon (spring roll) selections that are so popular in its Chicago French Market location, but with expanded hours and menu. "We will raise the bar at dinnertime with a more inventive menu," said Mary. Price points will be $5 for breakfast, $6-10 at lunch and less than $20 for dinner.

Heading the culinary team will be Executive Chef Matt Eversman, who has built his résumé at Charlie Trotter's and May Street Market. "This will be a departure for me, and it's an exciting one," said Eversman. "I personally love the food and eating style of Southeast Asia and so it will be very rewarding for me to blend my French cooking technique with these wonderful Asian flavors. The food will be creative and modern."

The Nguyen sisters bring a strong family food tradition to their restaurants. They were greatly inspired by their mother and grandmother, who were successful entrepreneurs in Vietnam and grew an open-market grocery into a large food market operation that was the main supplier to nearby embassies.

"We were immersed in a food environment with roots that went beyond Vietnam into neighboring Laos, Cambodia and Thailand and which also had a heavy French influence," said Mary. "With Saigon Sisters we're striving to offer recipes with a modern twist that reflect this international dynamic."

The sisters have also been inspired by Korean-American restaurateur David Chang and his highly lauded Momofuku restaurants in New York City: "Great food, really casual and down to earth," said Mary. "We think Chicagoans will love what we're doing, which brings the concepts of Vietnamese quality and modern casual together to form the Saigon Sisters' dining experience." For more information about Saigon Sisters, please visit the website at http://www.saigonsisters.com/ or contact Mary Nguyen Aregoni at her Chicago French Market location, (773) 383-8828.

Boy Scouts of America celebrate their Centenial

2010 marks 100 years of Scouting: "Celebrating the Adventure * Continuing the Journey", serving the country's youth with programs that promote character development and principled living.

These experiences reflect the skills and values of Scouting: appreciation for the outdoors, physical fitness, environmental conservation, and understanding of our national heritage. Boy Scouts of America (BSA), one of the nation's largest youth organizations, has about 3 million youth members and more than 1 million adult leaders in it's ranks.

BSA offers educational and character-building programs emphasizing leadership, citizenship, personal development, and physical training.

In addition to traditional scouting programs (Tiger, Cub, Webelos, and Boy Scouts ranging up to Eagle rank), it offers the Venturing program for boys & girls age 14-20. BSA generates revenue through contributions, supply & magazine sales, and membership fees. Calumet Council is currently seeking members by holding "Fall Roundups" throughout NE Illinois and NW Indiana.

Interested youth can call 800-513-2343, or go to the council website: calumetcouncil.org.

In 1910, the organization was founded by a Chicago publisher William D. Boyce, who in 1886 had also founded the Mutual Newspaper Publishing Company that provided advertisements & articles to over 200 area newspapers.

In 1909, Boyce lost his way in a dense London fog. A boy came to his aid and, after guiding the man, refused a tip, explaining that as a Scout he would not accept payment for doing a Good Turn.

This gesture by an unknown Scout inspired a meeting with Robert Baden-Powell, the British founder of Boy Scouts.

As a result, William Boyce incorporated the Boy Scouts of America on February 8, 1910 with these three aims: Character Development, Citizenship Training, and Mental & Physical Fitness.

The Mission statement of the BSA:

To prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Law. The Scout Law has twelve points. Attached is the first.

Excerpted from : http://ben.boulder.co.us/community/scouts/troop61/061997jamthe.htm

From left, Richards High School JROTC cadets Brianna O'Brien and Blen Strong won first place in the canoe race at the orienteering weekend at Turkey Run State Park in Indiana.

Richards NJROTC spends weekend orienteering, amassing trophies

Students enrolled in the U.S. Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Richards High School spent a weekend camping, orienteering, and enjoying the outdoors, and winning hardware in the process. Nearly 25 Richards JROTC students competed in the Bloomfield Orienteering and Canoe Classic in Edinburgh, IN.

The unit won second place out of 16 teams in the Orienteering, a competition that requires students to complete a course using a compass, portion of the competition.

Bulldog Company, the name of the Richards unit, also won the night search and evasion exercise. The unit topped the weekend off by winning the phonetic alphabet competition and celebrated their victories by hiking through a very scenic Turkey Run State Park on the return trip home.

Commander Doug Groters and Chief Petty Officer Dennis Reynolds manage the third-year JROTC unit, which features an enrollment of more than 100. The NJROTC curriculum features military history, tradition and drill, color guard service, and leadership development. Due to its schedule of activities and opportunities in military drill, JROTC satisfies the district's physical education requirement.

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Fulcrum Point New Music Project presents two special events

"MOTOWN METAL" AT HARRIS THEATER, OCT. 27

FREE LIVE MUSIC VIDEO PROGRAM AT CLAUDIA CASSIDY THEATER, NOV. 5

Fulcrum Point New Music Project, the city's leader in new art music and inventive collaborations between classical music and popular culture, will present a trio of concert events a dynamic "Motown Metal" concert, inspired by the sounds of Motown and Led Zeppelin, at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Wednesday, October 27; and "Holding Fast with Jacob TV," a free concert featuring short form videos with live accompaniment, at the Claudia Cassidy Theater, Friday, November 5.

Fulcrum Point New Music Project's Fall programming continues with "Motown Metal," at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph Drive, Wednesday, October 27, at 7 p.m. Inspired by the sounds of Motown and Led Zeppelin, this onetime event showcases the best of Chicago's brass, percussion, and electronics. Works include the title selection, Michael Daugherty's Motown Metal (1994), inspired by the sounds and rhythms of industrial Detroit, city of automobile clamor and the sixties Motown sound. This work highlights instruments made only of metal: horns, trumpets, trombones, tuba, vibraphone, glockenspiel, triangle, cymbal, gong, anvil, and brake drum, while David Lang's The Anvil Chorus (1991) is a solo percussion piece in which the "melody" is played on resonant junk metals of the percussionist's choosing. Also on the program is the Chicago Premiere of Yan Maresz' Metallics for trumpet & surround sound electronics (1995), an abstract exploration of the acoustical properties of metal through the sounds of a solo trumpet and electronics; Stefan Freund's Metal; and Out of Black Dust (2007) by Mark Anthony Turnage, a work for ten brass players doubling on percussion, and an abstract deconstruction of the jagged rhythms and power chords found in the iconic Zeppelin song "Black Dog." The work received its American Premiere here in a Music Now performance guest conducted by Stephen Burns.

"Motown Metal" tickets are priced at $20 each ($15 students & seniors), and all tickets include post-concert "sliders & smds" with the artists. To order tickets, please call 312-334-7777 or visit www.harristheaterchicago.org. Discount tickets are available for groups of 10 or more.

Fulcrum Point presents its third Fall concert event, a free multimedia presentation entitled "Holding Fast with Jacob TV: New Art Music with Video", at the Claudia Cassidy Theater of the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph, 2nd floor, Friday, November 5, from 6-7pm. This event will feature music from four award-winning composers, Jacob TV, Yan Maresz, Randy Woolt, and Miselta Zupko, accompanied by outrageous short videos and exquisite images. Zupko will lead a post-concert discussion.

Holding Fast with Jacob TV tickets are free and available on a first come, first served basis.

Since its formation by trumpet virtuoso and conductor Stephen Burns in 1998 under the auspices of Performing Arts Chicago, the mission of Fulcrum Point New Music Project has been to champion new classical music and highlight contemporary composers who are inspired and influenced by popular culture, including literature, film, dance, folk, rock, jazz, blues, Latin and world music.

Through multi-disciplinary concert performances and educational programs, the 20 member Fulcrum Point ensemble seeks to encourage audiences to make cross-cultural connections between new music, art, technology and literature, gaining greater insight into today's diverse world.

Burns, himself, has been acclaimed on four continents for his consistently and widely varied performances encompassing recitals, orchestral appearances, chamber ensemble engagements, and innovative multimedia presentations involving video, dance theatre, and sculpture.

As Fulcrum Point's Artistic Director, he is advised on programming by a distinguished Artistic Advisory Board including Wynton Marsalis, David Baker, John Corigliano, and Tania Leon as well as Fulcrum Point musicians and other colleagues.

A portion of the proceeds from all ticket sales fund Sound Tracks, Fulcrum Point's innovative program that brings global and new music to Chicago Public Schools.

The Sound Tracks project, designed to appeal to fourth and fifth graders, takes students around the world, mixing an introduction to world instruments with geography, architecture, visual art, cultural history and more.

For more information on the Fulcrum Point New Music Project 2010 Fall programming, please call (312) 726-3846 or visit www.fulcrumpoint.org

Annette's Theater Review for October

Hope you take my advice and get your tickets now for The Lion King, playing until November 27th.

In 2003 and 2005, they played to sold out runs at the Cadillac Palace Theatre. This reviewer has seen it both times and I could say it is equal to, if not better than 2003 performance.

The Lion King will play Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 7:30PM, Friday and Saturday evening at 8PM, Sunday evenings at 6:30PM, Wednesday and Saturday matinees at 2PM, and Sunday matinees at 1PM, as well as Tuesday performances on October 26, November 16 and November 23 at 7:30PM and a 2PM matinee on Friday, November 26. Ticket prices start as low as $25 at the Cadillac Palace Theatre.

Brenda Mbhenyane as "Rafiki" in the opening number "The Circle of Life" in THE LION KING National Tour. ©Disney. Photo Credit: Joan Marcus

Tickets are available at Broadway in Chicago Box Offices, The Broadway in Chicago ticket line at 800-775-2000, all ticketmaster retail locations including Hot Tix and select Carson Pirie Scott, Coconuts and Tye stores, also on line at www.BroadwayInChicago.com

I'm very excited about the play **Louis Slotin Sonata**, at a very small playhouse on 1531 N. Wells St. It's called A Red Orchid Theatre located in the mist of great dining. I was simply enthralled with the great performance of Steve Shinn as Louis, and amazed with the direction of Karen Kessler for this production. The final date is: October 24th. Call 312 943-8722 www.aredorchidtheatre.org.

Louis Slotin was a Canadian physicist and chemist who took part in the Manhattan Project.

For those who have grown up in Oak Lawn, you may remember the name of Evelyn Martin who worked for Howard Hughes, Henrico Fermi and on the on the Manhattan Project along with Louis Slotin.

She was famous in Oak Lawn for owning the water rights in the area of Harlem Ave east to Oak Park from 91st St. to 87th St. She also was involved in the development west of Grandview. Evelyn had flown solo, in 1950, around the world and accomplished so much, therefore the play was so memorable to me, since I heard so many stories, about the Manhattan Project and the people involved.

Detroit at the Steppenwolf Theatre falls short in my opinion mainly because of the busy stage hands moving scenery continuously. Of course, this only adds to the confusion on stage with the storyline of a dysfunctional couple making friends with another dysfunctional couple eventually turmoil erodes what could be a great relationship between two couples. Oh well, same old, same old, no recommendations for this one.

Candide

The newly adapted Voltaire's Candide directed by Mary Zimmerman was superb. How can it go wrong with Doug Peck as Music Director and 40 songs of Leonard Bernstein's score of music, featuring Geoff Packard in the title role and Lauren Molina as his princess love. Hollis Resnik, Chicago's favorite actress, is unforgettable as the Old Lady. Candide has been extended at the Goodman Theatre until October 31, call 312 443 3800, click GoodmanTheatre.org or visit the box office at 170 North Dearborn.

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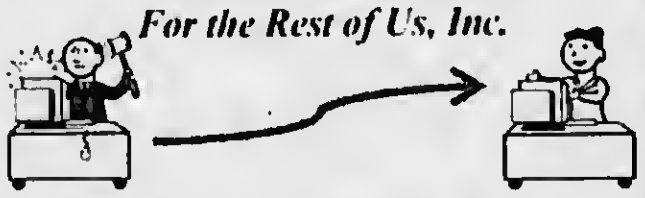

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Inspiring Children To Follow Their Dreams

(NAPSA)-For young girls, dance can offer many benefits-from improved endurance and flexibility, to enhanced confidence and strength. But it can also help young girls learn how to reach for their dreams.

In the "Angelina Ballerina" [illegible] Katharine Holabird and Helen Craig [illegible] are introduced to the joys of dance. [illegible] a positive work ethic as she [illegible] of becoming a prima ballerina. Along the [illegible] fun adventure and some of [illegible] her passion for dance always shines through.

In the new CG animated PBS KIDS series "Angelina Ballerina: The Next Steps," Angelina follows her dreams with grace and determination, capturing both the joys and frustrations of growing up, and demonstrating that life isn't a perfect ballet.

To raise awareness of the benefits of dance, the "Angelina Ballerina Stars of Tomorrow" program (AB Stars) was launched by HIT Entertainment with the Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club in the Bronx, N.Y.

In tandem with the new series and the launch of the program, HIT Entertainment and Lionsgate Home Entertainment are releasing a DVD titled "Angelina Ballerina: Love To Dance," and Mattel has launched a new line of Angelina Ballerina toys. Penguin Young Readers Group will release three all-new Angelina Ballerina picture books based on "Angelina Ballerina: The Next Steps," including "Angelina's New Dance" and "Angelina's New School" for 3-5 year-olds, and "The Nutcracker Sweet," for readers ages 5-8. Angelina will also share her love of dance in a new stage show, "Angelina Ballerina: The Musical."

For information, visit www.angelinaballerina.com.

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Children's Health

Protect Your Youngsters From Classroom Germs

(NAPSA)-Germs at school are nothing to sneeze at. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 22 million school days are lost each year due to the common cold and flu. That may be why parents worry as much about their children bringing home germs as they do bad grades.

According to a study conducted by Kelton Research for Seventh Generation, 82 percent of K-5 parents fret about germs in their children's classrooms. Fortunately, that may not have to happen.

"Minimizing the number of disease-causing germs that your children are exposed to is easier than you might think," says Dr. Alan Greene, best-selling author and pediatrician. "The key to success is knowing where the germs reside in the classroom and at home, and what to use to manage them."

Dr. Greene recommends using disinfectants that kill germs naturally to clean high-traffic areas such as desks, doorknobs and remote controls.

Because the average child contracts 6-8 colds a year, Dr. Greene suggests taking the following precautions to keep your children away from germs:

Optimize the immune system:

• Reap the benefits of probiotics such as those found in yogurt. A recent study showed that children who had enough probiotics daily throughout the cold and flu season had a significant reduction in the number of illnesses they contracted.

• Be sure your child is getting plenty of vitamin D from the sun, from food or from a supplement.

• Build a strong foundation. Good food, good sleep and good physical activity all help the immune system flourish.

Reduce unnecessary exposure to harmful germs:

• Teach children the key times to clean their hands in the classroom, including after sneezing, coughing or using the restroom, upon leaving "high-risk" places (recess, naptime, play stations) and before eating.

• Stress the importance of not touching the eyes, nose or mouth.

• Demonstrate to your children how to cover their mouths and noses for every cough and sneeze.

• Sixty percent of teachers surveyed request that parents donate disinfecting wipes to the classroom. The ones from Seventh Generation, considered the world's most trusted brand of authentic and environmentally responsible products for a healthy home, can kill 99.99 percent of germs naturally with the active ingredient thymol, derived from the herb thyme.

Learn More

For more germ-fighting tips during school days, visit www.SeventhGeneration.com.

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By Paul Cook

A nationally known financial expert says many seniors who have savings accounts make these mistakes, costing themselves and their families thousands of dollars! They risk their retirement security, increasing the chance they could outlive their money.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 19 | October 5, 2010

Oak Forest to implement flat fee for water and sewer usage

by Ronald Ayers

During a meeting of the Committee of The Whole held September 14, 2010, the Oak Forest City Council discussed implementing a flat fee for the usage of water and sewer utilities in the city.

The flat fee twenty dollars for residents, and a quarterly flat fee of forty dollars for businesses and multifamily housing units will be in addition to usage fees currently being paid by Oak Forest residents.

"When the City Council passed this year's budget, it did so with a five hundred thousand dollar deficit in the water and sewer fund," said Finance Director Colleen Julian. "Knowing the water and sewer operation must be self supporting, the council made a commitment to find a solution to this problem."

Village Officials have determined that water usage in Oak Forest has decreased 8.5 percent over the past year due to economic downturns. According to city officials, these economic downturns have led to increased conservation efforts, bankruptcies, and foreclosures.

"Even in a downside market, the city needs to support the operations of its utilities as well as fund capital improvements," said Julian.

In looking for a solution, Julian surveyed twelve municipalities to compare water and sewer rates. What she found was that the city of Oak Forest was the only municipality that did not charge a flat fee, or minimum charge for its water and sewer utilities. The comparison, according to Julian, determined that Oak Forest residents were paying between fifteen and twenty-five dollars less per quarter than the average bill of the communities surveyed.

"Historically, we have only charged our residents for usage," said Julian. "This approach is not adequate because there are fixed costs associated with providing utilities regardless of usage. Charging a flat fee in addition to usage is a more equitable distribution of the costs and will help us maintain a quality system," said Julian.

In other business:

* Oak Forest will install energy efficient lighting and boilers in city facilities using a ninety thousand dollar energy efficiency grant and rebates secured by the city from the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Clean Energy Foundation, and Nicor.

The grants will allow Oak Forest to replace inefficient lighting fixtures equipped with T12 magnetic ballast with electronic T8 fixtures in City Hall, the Police Department, both Fire Stations, and the Public Works building.

"The T8 units are more energy efficient, have a low life-cycle cost, and will be equipped with bulbs that more closely resemble natural light," said Richard Rinchich, Public Works Assistant Director.

According to Rinchich the new T8 light fixtures will be brighter, use fewer bulbs and take longer to burn out.

"So we'll spend less time replacing bulbs in our facilities over the next five years," explained Rinchich.

The grant awards will also be used to replace the thirty-one year old boiler in City Hall with two smaller, more energy efficient, two stage boiler systems.

"The new boilers will greatly reduce our overall natural gas consumption, especially during the summer months, said Rinchich. "These two projects are just another step toward our goal of earning an Energy Star certification for our facilities and strengthening our commitment to environmental programs such as Clean Air Counts."

* The Oak Forest Senior Citizens Commission will host its annual Senior Health Fair on Thursday October 14, 2010 from ten in the morning to two in the afternoon at the Oak Forest Park District, 15601 S. Central Avenue. While at the fair, seniors can register for utility rate-relief programs, get their flu shots, renew their driver's licenses, take a free glucose test, check their blood pressure, and enjoy entertainment(by the Wise Guys.

LaGrange Road Construction Topic of Monthly Meeting

Director of Public Works to Speak at Orland Chamber Meeting.

The widening of LaGrange Road through from 131st Street to 179th Street is a massive, four year project the will take place from now until 2014. Are you concerned on how this project will affect your business?

Join us on Wednesday, October 27th from 7:45 am to 9:00 am at Silver Lake Country Club for an overview of the construction and tentative timeline.

Ed Wilmes, Director of Public Works and Engineering for the Village of Orland Park, will present the plan and be available to answer your questions.

A breakfast buffet will be served. The cost is $13 for Orland Chamber members with RSVP and $15 for nonmembers and at the door. RSVP to 708-349-2972 if you plan on attending. Silver Lake Country Club is located at 14700 W. 82nd Avenue in Orland Park.

Contact the Chamber office at 708-349-2972 if you have questions. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Award given to local Tinley Park Police Officer

Recently at a luncheon in Orland Park, an announcement was made regarding lives that were saved by a Tinley Park Police Officer, who went beyond his call of duty.

This story does not have the name of the officer, but would like to mention what took place to honor him and all the volunteer firefighters in the village of Tinley Park.

A fire took place at the home of Ronald R. Dowling, president and owner of Estate Planning Consultants, Inc. The fire actually took place at the point of the gas and water meter on the outside of the building.

It was late in the evening when residents and animals were in bed. A neighbor spotted the burst of flames and called the fire department and the police received the call also.

A police officer knocked at the door and continually knocked and rang the doorbell until someone would answer.

He risked his life to do this for the flames where getting out of control.

Mr. Dowling did get out of the house, but one cat was still in the house. The officer rescued the cat and helped Mr. Dowling get the another cat to the vet for emergency.

Mr. Ronald Dowling attributes the rescue of the this police officer and his diligence for the arousal of a sound sleep and the saving his life.

The officer's name was announced and he was introduced at the meeting. He was awarded $2500 and $2500 was given to the volunteers of the Tinley Park Fire Department.

As one knows the villages have their shortfalls financially, but the residents certainly know the importance of the volunteer efforts in all aspects of village services. This heroism has been recognized by Village View Publications and we apologize for the last minute reporting and look forward to mentioning the officer's name in our next issue.

Photo by Ron Ayers

Tinley Park American Legion post presents an award to the Fire Department

Dave Montee, Commander of American Legion Post 615 in Tinley Park, presents the 2010 American Legion Police and Fire award to Lieutenant Chris Stube of the Tinley Park Fire Department. The award was presented to Lt. Stube during the September 28, 2010 Tinely Park Board meeting.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 19 | October 5, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights appoints police pension board appointment

by Matt Mayer

The city council approved the mayoral appointment of Matthew Hunt to the Police Pension Board to fill a two year term vacancy expiring Sept 1, 2011. The city council approved an amendment to a site lease agreement between the city and U.S. Cellular for the site at 7607 College Drive. The amendment reads as follows: 1) increase leased area by approximately 92 sq. ft. in order to accommodate the installation of a generator 2) the rent will be increased by $2,400.00 per year upon completion.

Other highlights: A Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Gardens to renew a five year term was approved as well as an ordinance for a two foot variance to allow the construction of a wing wall at 12151 S. 73rd Avenue. A wing wall is a smaller wall attached or next to a larger wall or structure. A contract with US Tennis Construction Co. the low bidder, was approved for the repair, resurfacing and color finishing of four tennis courts and one basketball court located at Palmer and Community Parks in an amount not to exceed $34,150.00.

A request to purchase Web Trac Online Registration Software from Vermont Systems, Inc for $13,073.00 was approved. The city council approved the following payments Seeco Consultants, Inc for $4,209.00 for the Harlem Avenue Sidewalk Project; K Five Construction Corporation for $196,608.59 for work related to the 2010 Roads Program. A motion for the Mayor to execute the Illinois Elevator Safety Program Agreement in accordance with the Elevator Safety and Regulation Act was also approved.

Worth outlines home rule guarantees

by Matt Mayer

Residents packed the Council Chambers at the Sept 21 Worth Board of Trustees meeting for the second meeting regarding information pertaining to a home rule referendum on the Nov. 2 ballot. Fliers titled "HOME RULE GUARANTEES" were distributed to Worth residents. The fliers read as follows: 1) the village property tax base of 2009 will be frozen for 5 years! 2) Utility taxes will not be increased! 3) Resident property sale taxes will no longer be the sole source of government income and 5) Financial future of the village will be stable and secure!

If Worth were to pass the home rule referendum, the village would then join surrounding communities such as Chicago Ridge, Alsip, Bridgeview, Oak Lawn, Evergreen Park, Burbank, Bedford Park, Midlothian, Orland Park, Oak Forest, Calumet Park, and Tinley Park.

Under the 1970 Illinois Constitution, Home Rule shifts decision making from the state level to the local level, which enables municipalities to find local solutions to local problems. Municipalities with a population in excess of 25,000 such as Oak Lawn, Tinley Park and Orland Park are automatically granted home rule status. Municipalities with fewer than 25,000 must have a referendum placed on the ballot. Also according to the constitution, if home rule were abused it could be revoked. No community however has petitioned to revoke home rule status in the past 20 years.

The village board would be allowed to explore alternate revenue sources such as a municipal gas tax as several other surrounding communities have done as well as other funding sources such as a licensing fee for service businesses such as lawyers, doctors, dentists, etc. Further information may be obtained by visiting the village website at www.villageofworth.org.

Trinity Lutheran Church hold craft fair

Various Crafters and vendors will be featured at Trinity Lutheran Church's 24th Annual Fall Craft Fair to be held on Saturday, November 13 from 9 to 3 PM. . Along with crafters and vendors, the Craft Fair features other sale items in our Christmas Room, there will be greeting cards and paper products, White Elephant items (new and newly new), Bake Sale, and special candy and nuts. Trinity offers an excellent place for lunch and snacks. (Our specialty is the "Joe dog" – hot dog topped with homemade sloppy Joe). Crafters who are interested in applying for a space should contact the church office at 708-422-0193 to receive an application or go on our website – Trinityol.com to print a form. Spaces for crafters are available for $25.00 per table. Trinity Lutheran Church is located at 9701 S. Brandt Avenue in Oak Lawn (Brandt Ave. is two blocks west of Cicero).

Pappas celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month in her downtown Chicago office with a reception and awards ceremony. Awards were presented to community leaders for contributions to Hispanic culture. "These individuals and organizations deserve to be honored and recognized for their outstanding humanitarian services," Pappas says. Pappas presents an award of excellence to Christina Santiago, manager of programming for the Lesbian Community Care Project at Howard Brown Health Center for creating relevant care and access for lesbian, bisexual and queer women as they seek care at the Howard Brown Health Center.

Scary story to be read at Palos Park Library

Anna Stange returns to the Palos Park Public Library with Slightly Scary Stories on Saturday, October 16th, at 2pm. Back by popular demand, musician Anna Stange will perform her "slightly scary" stories and songs in a highly interactive and engaging afternoon of music and entertainment for children of all ages.

The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park, IL.

Call the library to register for this family program at (708)448-1530 or visit us online at www.palosparklibrary.org.

Voter Registration

The last day to register to vote for the upcoming election will be Monday, October 4, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. Registration will re-open on Thursday, November 4, 2010. Halloween Trick-or-treat hours will be from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 31, 2010. Village of Chicago Ridge 10455 S. Ridgeland Avenue Chicago Ridge, Illinois 60415 (708) 425-7700

Palos Orland League of Women Voters holds meeting

The October meeting of the League of Women Voters of the Palos-Orland Area will feature Carl Birkelbach, President of Cook County's Friends of the Forest Preserve.

Friends of the Forest Preserves is an independent non-profit organization advocating for responsible managment of the Forest Preserves of Cook County.

Members and non-members are welcome to attend this meeting on Saturday, October 9 at 9 a.m. at the Palos Heights Library, 12501 South 71st Street in Palos Heights.

For additional information call 708-425-2422.

Lake Katherine Nature Center

Saturday, October 16, 2010 – 7am to noon -Fish the entire shoreline (All Sides) -Cash prizes for largest muskie, largemouth bass, walleye, channel catfish and bluegill! -

Fundraiser to support the mission of Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Gardens! -Limited to 125 anglers, first come-first served. Donation: $100 which includes barbecue at noon!

For more information call (708) 361-1873 Ticket sales Begin Now!

Village View

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B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 19 | October 5, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Alsip to use TIF to finance Pulaski-Crawford Ave. Corridor Redevelopment Project.

by Ronald Ayers

The Village of Alsip held a public hearing Monday September 20, 2010 at 7:00 pm at village hall 4500 west 123rd street to give notice of its intent to use a Tax Increment Finance District(TIF) to fund the Pulaski Road Corridor Redevelopment Project.

The proposed TIF redevelopment project will encompass an area bounded by 115th avenue on the north and 123rd street on the south.

According to the Notice of Public Hearing issued by Alsip prior to the September 20, 2010 meeting, the village proposes to alleviate conservation area conditions in the Redevelopment Project Area to enhance the tax base of the village and the taxing districts having taxable property within the Redevelopment Project Area.

The village plans on utilizing tax increment financing to fund eligible project costs to stimulate private investment within the Redevelopment Area.

Eligible project cost, according to the Alsip Public Hearing document include:

- Studies and surveys
- Professional fees
- Construction of improvements and facilities

The objective of the Redevelopment plan as outlined in **Alsip's Public Hearing document include:**

"Promoting and protecting the health, safety, morals and welfare of the public by establishing a public/private partnership that will attract employment opportunities within the proposed Redevelopment project area."

TIFs are a method by which units of local government use future gains in taxes to finance current improvements, which theoretically will create the conditions for those future gains.

When a development or public project is carried out, there is often an increase in the value of surrounding real estate, and perhaps investment in the form of new or rehabilitated buildings in distressed or underdeveloped areas where development might not otherwise occur.

The proposed Pulaski Road Corridor Redevelopment Plan and project is on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Village Clerk, Alsip Village Hall, 4500 W. 123rd Street, Alsip, Illinois.

In other business, the village proposed:

- Approval of the August, 2010 Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) allotment of $41,248.92
- Approval of the fire department to purchase a new vehicle totaling $23,600 which was approved for purchase by the Foreign Fire Tax Insurance.
- Approval of the Alsip Chamber of Commerce to place signs throughout th village from October 12, to October, 23, to advertise the Chamber's holiday Craft Fair to be held on October, 23rd, and for a waiver of fees.

Alsip resident to be honored at World War II Memorial.

They have been called "The Great Generation"

by Ronald Ayers

Men who suffered in the Bataan "Death March" in the Philippines.

Men who stormed the beaches of Anzio, Italy to begin the liberation of Rome.

Men who started the end of World War II by facing down German machine guns on the beaches of Normandy in Northern France.

"The Great Generation" were women serving as Army nurses, and the women who worked in American factories making the war materials that allowed the United States to fight wars on two fronts. They were wives, mothers and girlfriends at home, watching the front window, fearful that a car from the War Department would pull up, and a military man would come bearing a message that their loved one had left his blood on some field in Europe, or on some Island around Japan.

Alsip Village Trustee Sheila McGreal announced at the September 27, 2010 board meeting that resident Frank May himself a member of "The Great Generation" had been selected to participate in a great honor. On October 6, 2010 May and other World War II veterans were flown from Chicago to Washington D.C. to visit the National World War II Memorial by the volunteer group Honor Flight Chicago.

The Memorial honors the more than sixteen (16) million service men and women who served in World War II and the more than four hundred thousand (400,000) who gave their lives in support of American freedoms.

Mr. May is ninety years old having been born in Chicago on November 7, 1920. He was married to his wife Mary—now deceased—for some fifty three (53) years. With Mary, Frank has four children three boys and one girl.

Mr. May enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1942. He served in the Atlantic on the Coast Guard Cutter the USS Talapossa. May also served on the USS, Palmetto, a Buoy Tender.

Frank May has two brothers and one sister.

His brother Don is deceased. May's sister, Sister Jolise entered the convent when she was fourteen. She is now the Mother Superior for the Poor Hand Maids of Jesus Christ, whose main Mother House is in Dernberg Germany. The Poor Handmaids established a college to train candidates and novices in Donaldson, Indiana in 1937.

Mr. May will meet up with his brother Joe who lives in Nebraska. Joe served in the Pacific Theatre under General Douglas McArthur. Frank and Joe flew to Washington D.C. together.

Frank May served the Village of Alsip as Fire and Police Commission Secretary for many years.

When asked how he felt about being honored at the National World War II Memorial Mr. May said:

"It's a fantastic feeling to be picked out. I've heard about the Memorial, but to be picked out for this honor from all the other veterans in existence is just a thrill."

Cook County School District 130 awarded grant to benefit homeless students

Cook County School District 130 has been approved for the $5,000 McKinney-Vento Grant which will benefit homeless students in the District 130 community. The grant was obtained by District social workers Kate LeFevour, Aileen Cahill, Catherine Guerrero, and Violetta Martinez with guidance from Sue Shoemaker, Interim Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services.

The funds from this grant can be used for uniforms for homeless students, school supplies, or transportation costs to get homeless students to doctor appointments for needed immunizations or health checks. The grant is named for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act which outlines procedures under which homeless students will receive educational services.

"This was the first time District 130 had applied for this grant and the diligence of the four District social workers paid off. The social workers knew our community and its needs, they also had a good handle on medical needs, and I was very impressed with the amount of information the social workers had and as a district-wide grant, the needs of the children will be addressed though their social workers and counselors," said Shoemaker.

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip, Blue Island, Crestwood and Robbins.

Winter is around the corner! Advertise in the Service Directory, in 4 newspapers, 18 South Suburbs. 312-624-8996.

Village View

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 8 | October 19, 2010

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Evergreen Park approves financial pool

by Matt Mayer

At the Oct 4 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting, Mayor James Sexton announced that the Village of Oak Lawn is operating a regional electronic waste recycling facility at the Oak Lawn Public Works garage at 5532 W. 99th Street. Electronic waste such as computers, TV's and various electronic appliances will be collected. Sexton said this was long overdue and it will be a regional collaboration thanks to the pushing from Senator Mahoney. The hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 2 pm and 4 pm and the second Saturday of each month from 10 am to 12 Noon.

Sexton also thanked the Fire Department for their Open House on Sept.26 as well as Mary Keane for the Classic Car Show event, held on Sept.25. There were over 200 entrees along with a constant flow of spectators throughout the entire evening. The annual Halloween Parade will commence at 6 pm on Oct. 22 at the Community Center.

Other highlights Trustees Jerry Bosch presented Mayor Sexton and the Village with a plaque, which was received from the Census Bureau for 80 percent participation in the recent census. The national average is 70 percent - it's very important that we received 80 percent participation. Most of the things that happen around here are based per capita so if we had a 50 or 60 percent participation, that's all would have been reimbursed for the next 10 years, Sexton said.

The village board approved a resolution authorizing the execution of a first amended and restated declaration of trust. This is a prototype resolution for entry into IMET, which is a financial pool for high interest investment rates for local government. The investments are fully insured and collateralized, which allows the village another opportunity to make investments at a higher yield.

A public works request to purchase a 2011 Ford Super duty multipurpose truck, which will take the place of 2 separate trucks for the Sewer and Water Department for $97,270.90 this, is a budgeted item and co-op purchasing which is the lowest price, Sexton said.

A Halloween proclamation proclaiming Sunday Oct. 31 to be celebrated as Halloween in the Village of Evergreen Park was approved. The trick or treat hours are from 2 pm to 6 pm. The month of October was also proclaimed "Domestic Violence Awareness Month".

What is happening in Evergreen Park, Wed

SAVE THE DATE/DID YOU KNOW Queen of Martyrs' Trivia Nite Sat., Oct. 23rd from 6-11pm Call 422-1540 for more info.

EPCHS PTSA will be holding their Annual Fall Arts & Craft/Vendor Fair on Nov. 6th at EPHS from 8am-2pm

EP Youth Commission's Annual Coat Drive is going on until November 30th. You may drop off any new or clean used coats (coats only please) to the Community Center, 3450 W. 97th Street, from 10-5 Mon-Fri.

Early voting is going on until October 28th The closest site is Oak Lawn Village hall, Mon. thru Sat 9am-5pm

First United Methodist Church of EP 9358 S Homan is hosting a Trunk n-Treat from noon to 3pm on October 31st.

South Division Credit Union is hosting a shred day at the Farmer's Market on October 28th from 9am - noon.

Halloween Trick or Treating hours are From 2-6pm on Sunday October 31st.

Smash your Pumpkins on November 6th from 4-6pm at the Community Center north lot, 3450 W. 97th St. Fall treats will be on hand.

Standard Bank donated $1,200 to local non profit Park Lawn

The money was received through Standard Bank's hospitality tent that they coordinated at the Village of Oak Lawn's Fall on the Green event.

The donation of $1200 will benefit the programs and services for more than 450 individuals with developmental disabilities at Park Lawn Vocational Services in Oak Lawn.

Attention All Shoppers, Crafters, & Vendors!

The Parent Association of St. Albert the Great Catholic School is holding their annual "Holiday Fair Craft and Vendor Show". If you have visited us in the past, you know we have a great Holiday Craft Fair. It is on Saturday, November 6, 2010 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM in Rogers Hall (Church Basement) 5555 West State Road (80th & Central) Burbank, IL 60459.

Space are still availability. The prices start at $25.00 on a first come, first served basis.

For more information about being a vendor, please call 708-424-7757 or 708-612-0807.

Oak Lawn secures quiet zone

by Matt Mayer

Village Manager Larry Deetjen announced at the Oct. 12 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) recently informed the village that five railroad crossings, one of which is in Hometown, were approved. This covers all crossings on the Southwest Service Line in the village.

The process, which began in 2005, was long and arduous. We were successful in winning the battle, Deetjen said. Thirty-eight trains including 20 Metra trains traverse the village each day.

The quiet zone was scheduled to go into effect on February 17, 2010. However at the Feb 2 Board of Trustees meeting, Deetjen said the village had recently received a response from the FRA, which halted the project. Village officials learned that the FRA had some issues with the village's quiet zone applications, "an interpretation difference", said Deetjen. The FRA disagreed with the village's assessment of the quiet zone, particularly the median height on Cicero Avenue. The Illinois Department of Transportation specifies that the a median must not be more that 6 inches from the top of the roadway. The resurfacing of Cicero Avenue has reduced the required height in some spots. The drawings, which were submitted to the FRA, showed the median was rebuilt to specifications. Deetjen said at that time, "Oak Lawn meets the requirements for a quiet zone and we will have a quiet zone"

According to the Federal Register the effective date of the final rule was June 24, 2005 for the creation of quiet zones. In the final rule the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) outlines specific regulations when trains must sound a locomotive horn while approaching crossings and provides exceptions to the requirement. This enables communities to create quiet zones, improving the quality of life by allowing the silencing of locomotive horns at railroad crossings while still ensuring that safety is sustained.

A quiet zone is a section of rail line, which contains one or more consecutive public crossings where locomotive horns are not routinely sounded. The FRA rule also describes requirements the communities must meet to implement a quiet zone. However a train engineer has the discretion to sound the horn if an imminent danger is perceived.

The public entities that are responsible for traffic control and law enforcement at public highway railroad crossings are the only ones that can designate or apply for a quiet zone. Quiet zones must have active grade crossing warning devices, consisting of flashing lights, gates, constant warning circuitry and power off indicators at all public highway-rail road crossings. Each highway approach to all public and private crossings within in a quiet zone must have an advance warring sign which advises motorists that train horns are not sounded at the crossing, according to FRA final rule.

This project was a collaboration with Federal, Metra, State and Local officials.

VILLAGE OF JUSTICE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES 7800 ARCHER ROAD, JUSTICE, IL

Reporting Julie Schabes -

Monday, October 11, 2010, 7:30 PM MINUTES ORDINANCE # 2010-20 RESOLUTION # 2010-19 CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Kris Wasowicz called the Meeting to order at 7:30 pm. PLEDGE: Mayor Wasowicz led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. ROLL CALL: Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are Mayor Kris Wasowicz. Trustees: John Koslowski, George Pastorino, Mary McGee, Kinga Bartoszek and Phil DePaola are present. Attorney Michael Castellino of the Del Galdo Law Group is also present.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED TAX INCREMENT FINANCE DISTRICT TIF DISTRICT NO. 4 (ARCHER ROAD CORRIDOR) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: • Motion to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of 9/27/10, approved.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mayor Kris Wasowicz VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT: Clerk Kathy Svoboda COMMITTEE REPORTS: PUBLIC SAFETY – Trustee Phil DePaola FINANCE AND INSURANCE – Trustee Kinga Bartoszek

• Motion: To approve AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED $700,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION WORKING CASH FUND BONDS, SERIES 2010, OF THE VILLAGE OF JUSTICE, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS; Motion approved.

• Motion: To approve A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND ESTABLISHING A DEPOSITORY ACCOUNT FOR THE ROBERTS PARK ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT GRANT FUNDS; Motion approved.

• Motion: To approve A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND ESTABLISHING A DEPOSITORY ACCOUNT FOR THE FIGURA GROVE PARK RELOCATION PROJECT GRANT FUNDS; Motion approved.

• Motion: To approve payables posted for the period of 9/25/2010 – 10/06/2010, numbers 1-21 in the amount of $22,490.10, plus recurring expenses of $37,147.82, TIF #1 expenses of $ 297.78, and MFT expenses of $1,213.07 for a total of $61,148.77; Motion approved.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING & RECREATION – Trustee Kinga Bartoszek PUBLIC UTILITIES – Trustee Mary McGee ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING – Trustee John Koslowski

• Motion: To approve the Business License of the Neighborhood Laundry Mat, Inc doing business at 8523 S. 88th Ave. in Justice; Motion Tabled.

BUILDING, PLATS AND ZONING – Trustee Phil DePaola • A hearing to consider a variance from zoning for height of a digital billboard is scheduled for Thursday, October 14th at 7:00 pm. All those interested are invited to attend. • Debate over approval of a Hookah Bar request is being researched further. The requirements as to whether or not the building is a freestanding building is in question. It was decided the burden of proof falls on the potential business owner.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: There was none.

City of Burbank Regular Council Meeting

Reporting Julie Schabes

City of Burbank – Regular City Council Meeting October 13, 2010 Roll Call: Dan Foy, Alderman 1st Ward; Colleen Pollard, Alderman 2nd Ward; Barry Szymczak, Alderman 3rd Ward; James Grider, Alderman 4th Ward; Patricia E. Roach, City Clerk; Harry J. Klein, Mayor; Dean Viverito, City Treasurer; John Pacella Jr, Alderman 5th Ward; Mitchell E. Piznarski, Alderman 6th Ward; Jason Pyle, Alderman 7th Ward. Department of Finance, Ald. James Grider, Chairman; Ordinance No. 29-10-10 levying taxes for general and corporate purposes, for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2010, for the City of Burbank. Department of Zoning, Ald. Dan Foy, Ordinance No. 30-10-10 authorizing a variation to allow the construction of a 5 ft front/side yard fence for the property located at 8852 South Moody, Burbank, IL.

Committee Reports: None. Old Business: None. New Business: None. Citizens Report: Burbank Resident ("George S." from 8118 S. Lotus) expressed concern for what he feels is an increase in noise from Midway Airport to include sounds from airplanes and helicopters.

Mayor Klein reassured George that Burbank has the lowest decibels reported on the noise monitors from Midway compared to all the surrounding communities. Mayor Klein also explained that at times due to weather conditions airplane traffic on runways are sometime as altered from time to time.

George S. also inquired if Cook County will decrease property taxes with the lowered home values. He explained his difficulty getting a straight answer from various offices throughout Cook County as well.

Treasurer, John Pacella Jr., described how it's very complicated with levying and assessing. Mayor Klein said, "We are just as much in the dark as you are on this. You're preaching to the choir."

Alderman Colleen Pollard suggested George file with "The Board of Appeals" at the Bridgeview Courthouse for his property tax concerns. George S. also questioned if there is an influx of Section 8 Housing in Burbank. Mayor Klein answered, "Cook County doesn't have the funds. If anything, they'd decrease it. So, the answer is no." ADJOURNMENT

Hickory Hills City Council meeting

Reporting Julie Schabes

Hickory Hills City Council Meeting 10/14/10 All of the board members were in attendance, along with a few citizens of Hickory Hills to share either various concerns or as proud award recipients.

The meeting began with an extremely touching presentation for two important members of the Hickory Hills Police Department, which included Sgt. Gary Kollmar and Lt. Thomas Dietz. Sgt. Kollmar's past twenty years were outlined so eloquently by Chief Vodicka as he was honored with a commemorative pin. Lt. Dietz's devotion throughout his twenty-year-career was also highlighted with by Chief Vodicka, and Lt. Dietz received a plaque.

Next item on the agenda included the presentation of Beautification Awards. These homeowners of Hickory Hills were recognized for their exceptionally well landscaped properties.

Vince Uzzardo of The Hickory Hills Lions Club discussed the plans for the 5K Run/Walk October 23, 2010. As of this meeting, 33 participants have signed up. This exciting event starts at 9:00 A.M. and the award ceremony immediately following at 10:30 A.M. A trainer from Cardinal Fitness will be leading the warm-ups, and an EMT will be on standby. Many sponsors have made generous donations which vary from food, water, and door prizes. Register online at www.signmeup.com.

Motions: Res. 10-16, reopening of an off ramp I-294; motion approved. PATSE Bus Service Contribution; motion approved. St. Patricia Church Shed Request; motion approved. Motion to renew the agreement between City of Hickory Hills and Cook County to have scheduled inspections of all food retail establishments as they have for the last couple of years has been approved. A surprise inspection may be warranted if a complaint is filed for any of the establishments.

Resident Concerns: Mr. Frank Halper of 9341 S. 84th Ct. feels many cars are speeding, having damaged a brick mailbox, and harmed properties. He wishes speed humps be installed. He also requests a 4-way stop at 91st St. Additionally, he would like a crosswalk, flasher walk light, or some type of safety precautions provided for a female resident in the area of 92nd & 84th Ct, who has spine problems and pushes a cart to Fairplay.

Mr. Joseph Cantele of 8950 S. 84th Ave, reminded us of the respect our American Flags deserve by reviewing a few key guidelines: either illuminated flags upon dusk for the entire evening or putting them away until dawn with a proper morning raising. Mr Cantele paid tribute to our brave Veterans who fought for our freedom by bringing attention to this important issue. Not one person present could disagree with this and many clapped at his sentiment. The City of Hickory Hills has already made necessary adjustments to provide required lighting of their flag out front.

Mr. Vaci of 8818 W. 89th St. pleaded for assistance in his longtime flooding dilemma of his home. He has described extensive damage to his home over the years including carpet, a boiler, etc, due to sewer backup with each rain. Mayor Howley considered different options from laying pipe to a pump system with the engineer. It's an extremely complex situation. Swale complications were discussed involving former easements and the requirement of present surrounding homeowners' permission. A plan to discuss this with the neighbors is being implemented.

City Business: Mayor Howley confirmed that Hickory Shopping Plaza is indeed for sale. He also welcomes any potential business owners for meet-and-greets to reassure them Hickory Hills is a business friendly city.

Queen of Peace to Hold a Fund-raiser

Join Queen of Peace High School alumnae and their families, parents, current and former faculty, and friends for "It's a Peace Thing", on Saturday, Nov. 20 from 4-8 p.m. at Bourbon Street, 3359 W. 115th St. in Merrionette Park.

Tickets are $40 per person in advance or $50 at the door (cash or credit card only) and include beer, wine, soft drinks, buffet, sweets table and live entertainment, featuring MC and DJ of Extreme Soundsations, and Good 2 Go Band. To purchase tickets, visit www.queenofpeacehs.org or call (708) 458-7600. Guests must be 21 or older to attend.

"It's a Peace Thing Committee" - Donna Ramsden Barniele '82, Nikki Kelly Brunke '95, Mary Rita Crowe '90, Erin Foley '03, Mary Costello Geoghegan '75, Kat Greenan, Cindy Kmetty, Anne O'Neill Malone '73, KC Ziemba McNulty '02, Cathy Grahovec Murray '73, Carol Lenza Petersen '72, Mary Beth Dougherty Rotkowich '74 and Laura Storino '96 "It's a Peace Thing" is a celebration you don't want to miss!

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnew@sbcglobal.net

Owner/Editor/Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

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Via Door

New Studies Reveal Hidden Benefits of Exercise for Local Seniors

Encouraging aging loved ones to take part in Autumn activities can provide huge health rewards

As the weather turns and leaves begin to fall this year, new research shows that local aging seniors are well served to get up and grab a rake themselves – for more reasons than one. A group of four recent studies published in 2010 Harvard University health and medicine journals shows a surprising and strong connection between seniors, exercise, and mental and physical health, especially among aging women.

"We've known that regular exercise translates to serious health benefits for seniors for years, but connections of this magnitude are incredible," said Peter Ross, senior care expert and CEO of Senior Helpers, the fastest growing in-home care company in the nation. "It's vital to keep mom and dad up and moving as they age, and this is further evidence that proves just how important even the most moderate of exercise efforts can really be."

The four new studies found the following related to seniors, mental health and physical activity:

·Women who exercise regularly *(categorized as walking briskly five to six hours per week)* at age 60 were almost twice as likely to live beyond 70 with no cognitive, physical, or mental health limitations;

·Women age 65-75 who participated in low-level strength training exercises showed significantly improved executive function *(high-order thought processes involved in decision making)* and also improved physical walking speed *(a leading predictor of fall and fracture risk)* compared to a control group;

·Men and women over 55 who exercise at a moderate level or higher *(about three times per week)* were half as likely to develop dementia later in life compared to those who did not exercise regularly; and

·Women, age 70 and up, with mild cognitive impairments *(MCI, a common precursor to dementia)* who engaged in aerobic exercise four times per week showed significant improvements over a control group in all administered cognitive and physiological tests over a six-month trial.

"The successes found by these researchers in improving mental function and physical health can be duplicated in reality, and locally," Ross says. "We work with area seniors living on their own each day, helping them get out of the house, go for a walk, do some light work in the yard or garden or whatever else they can do. It's crucial for elderly individuals to stay active and exercise, but it's also important to have someone there to watch them, assist them, and make sure they are staying safe while being staying active."

Simple Autumn Exercise Ideas for Seniors

·Sweeping/Raking leaves, even a quick weekly sweep of the front porch or the stoop offers cardio and strength-building exercise for core muscle groups.

·Gardening, tending to a small garden or flower box works the hands, forearms, and extremities and is good for the mind.

·Light Housework, doing the dishes, laundry, dusting, and cleaning offer a great opportunity for an easy everyday exercise routine.

·Walking, the weeks after the summer heat and before winter chill provide a perfect window for outdoor excursions at any point during the day.

·Seasonal Activities pumpkin carving and corn mazes offer physical activity and a chance to interact with family and friends.

"The physical and mental benefits of exercise among seniors are almost endless," Ross says. "Even the simplest of activities can go a long, long way to promoting a healthy, independent life-style among aging loved ones – and this new research is the proof."

This new information about the importance of exercise among seniors is a great story that affects millions of aging Baby Boomers.

Hyatt Hotels care about you

by Annette Dixon

Hyatt Hotels and Resorts announced their 2000 "Respire by Hyatt" rooms will be available soon in every major city. The rooms are designed for travelers who need a Hypo-Allergenic Room! There may be an extra charge per night, but well worth the cost. The Hyatt Regency East and West on Wacker Drive announced to the press about the convenience of having the "Respire by Hyatt" rooms for the public who have allergies, asthma, or any other breathing related problems. Of course, these rooms are not only used for the purpose of better breathing, but also for a good night sleep for another long day.

Brian Brault, CEO and Owner of PURE Solutions, NA, introduced the PURE system to various hotels. PURE Solutions is committed to provide healthier environments through improved indoor air quality for this hospitality industry and commercial settings. PURE Solutions Company states, "they can remove between 98-100% of bacteria and viruses in the air as well as surfaces. They use a Tea Tree Oil Cartridge, and they originally shock the room for ozone, therefore advise never to open the windows in any of the Respire Rooms.

A bacteriostatic barrier called PURE SHIELD is then applied on all surfaces to prevent the growth of bacteria. To maintain these ideal conditions in the room, a state of the art air purification system is installed, creating air quality that averages four times cleaner that the threshold for asthma patients. This system is registered by the FDA as a Class II medical device. Special micro-fiber hypo-allergenic pillow cases and mattress covers are used in the room to reduce allergies triggered by dust mite allergens."

All designated rooms have a verification declaring as such. A recertification takes place every six months with the same procedure originally done previously.

For Hyatt guests, this means the air in Respire by Hyatt rooms, on an average is ten times more pure than outside air due to lower particulate counts. When traveling ask for the "Respire by Hyatt room. For more information visit www.respire.hyatt.com

Eiche Turners to host 5th annual haunted house fund-raiser

Eiche Turners in Tinley Park is sponsoring a ghoulishly gruesome Halloween Haunted House October 22-24 and October 29-31. The cost is $10 per person and children under the age of 10 are $5.

This year's Haunted House, "The Underground Hauntings of 80th Avenue," will be open from 6 to 10 p.m. on October 22, 23, 29, 30 & 31, and from 6 to 8 p.m. on October 24. In addition, Eiche Turners will be selling food and Halloween treats.

People of all ages are invited to come over to the Tinley Park facility, 16767 S. 80th Avenue, for a scary time. The event is being held to raise funds for its current programs.

For more information, please call 708.429.2206. The web site is www.undergroundhauntings.com

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St. Laurence High School Presents
Viking Tailgate Trivia Night
Saturday November 13, 2010
St. Laurence High School • 5556 W. 77th St.
Burbank, IL 60459
708-458-6900
Doors Open at 6:00PM Kickoff at 7:00PM
Game Plan:
Ten people to a table (Reserved under one name)
Cost $150.00 Prepaid
Bring your own food or Order food from area restaurants
Beer, Wine, Mike's Hard Lemonade, pop and water will be sold.
Raffle / Split the Pot / Music
No outside liquor allowed
Please send Request: Attention St. Laurence Mothers' Club
Must be 21 year old to play
Tables are given on a first paid, no tables will be held without payment.

Maria High School announces Open House dates

Maria High School, 6727 S. California Ave., invites guests to learn about the all-girls school at Open Houses scheduled for Thursday, November 11 (6-8 p.m.); Sunday, December 5 (1-3 p.m.); and Thursday, January 6 (6-8 p.m.). A Spanish-speakers Open House will take place on Monday, November 30 (6-7:30 p.m.).

Elementary school students and their families, as well as prospective transfer students, are invited to gain in-depth information about Maria's curriculum, which runs along the tracks of College Preparatory, Health Science, and Business/Technology. Visitors will experience the wide variety of academic, athletic, spiritual, and extracurricular programs that Maria has to offer. Families will meet faculty, staff, and students and will have the opportunity to tour the school. Maria has three state of the art computer centers, including its distance-learning Comcast Lab, numerous other specialized labs, and a premier 1,200-seat auditorium.

For information about Maria, please contact Fran Tenbroeck at 773 925 8686, ext. 186, or visit www.mariahighschool.org; for personal tours and shadow days, please contact Katie Mankin at 773 925 8686, ext. 151.

Marist Students recognized for exam scores

Marist High School principal Larry Tucker '79 is pleased to announce that eight seniors and 74 members of the class of 2010 received Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar Awards from the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP exams.

About 18 percent of the 1.8 million students worldwide who took AP exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP exams. At Marist, forty students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by earning an average grade of at least a 3 or higher on three or more AP exams.

Fifteen graduates qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 of higher on four or more of these exams.

Twenty-five students were Scholars with Distinction for receiving an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken. 2010 graduates Peter Diamond (Lemont) and Andrew Lynch (Oak Lawn) were recognized as National Scholars for receiving an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 4 or higher on 8 or more of these exams.

AP is accepted by more than 3,800 colleges and universities worldwide. Research consistently shows that AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP exams (based on a scale from 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest) typically experience greater academic success in college and higher graduation rates than students who do not participate in AP.

Marist High School offers 18 AP courses. In the spring of 2010, 271 Marist students took 591 AP exams.

Celebrating more than 45 years of excellence, Marist High School in Chicago is a Catholic, college preparatory school educating young men and women in heart, mind, and body.

St. Rita High School Goes Pink for Cancer

St. Rita of Cascia High School has gone pink to benefit cancer awareness and research during the month of October. The entire St. Rita Family; students, faculty, staff, families, alumni and friends of St. Rita have been taking part in a "Ritamen Wear Pink" campaign.

This fund raising and awareness initiative was the idea and undertaking of the St. Rita's Varsity Football team.

The football team's senior leaders approached Head Coach Todd Kuska and Assistant Athletic Director/Athletic Trainer Zach Blaszak about wearing pink tape for an upcoming home game. Both Kuska and Blaszak agreed that wearing pink tape would be a great idea, and asked the young men if there was anything else they thought St. Rita could do for cancer awareness.

The young men came up with the "Ritamen Wear Pink" campaign. The NFL says "Real Men Wear Pink," so the football team changed it to "Ritamen Wear Pink" and developed a plan to turn St. Rita pink and raise funds for The Cancer Center at Little Company of Mary Hospital in Evergreen Park.

The campaign brought in almost $6000 with more donations and t-shirts sales still taking place at the upcoming games.

Burbank Park District's Annual Halloween Party

Saturday, October 30th
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Newcastle Park Rec. Center
FREE

Games - Prizes - Treats
Haunted House - Costume Contest

All children 12 years & younger are welcome

Children should dress in costume
Questions? Call 708-599-2070.

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Children's Wildlife Education

Our presentations are perfect for Scouts, School Assemblies, Field Trips, Libraries, Park Districts, Church Groups, and Home School Programs!

Saturday October 30, 2010 ~ Happy Howl-o-ween!

Children's costume contest, pumpkin painting, scavenger hunt, pony rides
Special Guest at Noon: David Loy "Birds of Prey in Modern Falconry"
10:00 am - 4:00 pm. $4 admission. See website for details.

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The Oak Lawn Senior Happenings

The Senior Center, located at 5330 West 95 Street, offers a wide variety of activities for Oak Lawn Seniors.

In addition to all daily activities the following will be offered in the month of October, Thursday, October 28th is Box Lunch Day. The sponsor of the month is Edwards Insurance and Financial who are located at 4815 West 103 Street.

Mr. Jolyk will present an overview of the recent changes to Medicare and how they will effect seniors.

He will also address "The Class Act", the government's solution to the growing need for Long Term Care health coverage.

The must see presentation begins at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch and bingo. The cost is $3.50 to seniors and seating is limited.

For further details on any of the activities you may call 499-0240 or stop by the Center for a calendar of events.

St. Xavier Health Center partners with the CDPH

Saint Xavier University's Health Center will partner with the Chicago Department of Public Health to offer free children's lead screenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wed., Oct. 27 at the Health Center on SXU's Chicago campus, 3700 W. 103rd St.

Children ages six months through six years can come for screenings on a walk-in basis, no appointment necessary.

According to the Chicago Department of Public Health, children under the age of six are most likely to get lead poisoning, typically due to eating or breathing dust contaminated with lead. Lead poisoning can be very harmful to children's' health, leaving them vulnerable to serious mental and behavioral problems. For more information about the importance of lead screening, please visit the Chicago Department of Public Health Web Site or call (312) 747-LEAD (5323).

For more information about this event, please contact the SXU Health Center at (773) 298-3712.

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Queen of Peace to Hold Choral Concert

The Frosh Chorus, Show Choir and Chamber Ensemble of Queen of Peace High School will hold an Autumn Choral Concert on Tuesday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. The concert will take place in Queen of Peace's Chapel.

Each guest is encouraged to bring a $2 donation. All proceeds will directly benefit Queen of Peace's Choral Music Program and its members.

Those who bring a canned or dry good will receive a discount off the suggested donation. Friends and families of Queen of Peace are invited and encouraged to attend this celebration of autumn through choral music.

A Not So Haunted House at Mother McAuley

Mother McAuley's annual Not-So-Haunted House, a Halloween alternative for young children will be held on Wednesday, October 27, 2009 from 3:30 6:00 p.m.

This year's theme "Halloween Playground" will feature skits, games, face painting, puppet shows and Halloween activites for children preschool through 4th grade. Children may come in costume and join in the Halloween fun. Candy treats are given to each participant.

Admission is $1 per person and $2 for adults. No reservations are needed. Please enter at the Mother McAuley Auditorium 3737 W. 99th Street, Chicago.

The Not So Haunted House will be presented by members of McAuley's Thespian Troupe #443 of the International Thespian Society, Freshman Acting, Children's Theatre and Play Production students. For more information, contact the McAuley Theater Department at 773 881 6512.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Citizens,

Five Municipalities including the Village of Worth and the City of Blue Island will have a referendum on the November 2, 2010 Elections Ballot for "Home Rule".

The definition of Home Rule is: "For the protection of the Public Health, Safety, MORALS, and welfare, to TAX and INCUR DEBT" Web page: www.thefreedictionary.com.

The United States Constitution.

AMENDMENT XV
Section 1:

"The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of Race, Color or previous conditions of Servitude".

Under Home Rule you give up your right to VOTE and the Local Government can do what they like. Maybe they think we the people are not smart enough to VOTE.

The Local, State or Federal Government have been trying to talk you into giving up your constitutional right to vote and once you lose your rights you will never get them back.

This will come at a great cost in more ways than you know, YOUR FREEDOM! Voting is YOUR RIGHT! All the municipalities have money problems and have laid off Village/City workers or have taken furlough days to try to close the gaps.

They threaten to take away many services they provide now, if they don't get "Home Rule" So take them! We have done without them before and we can do it again. The municipalities can return the service when or if they can pay their bills.

I think the Mayors/ Presidents should take a decrease in pay for a short time, if things are as bad as they claim.

We all have to tighten our belts to pay our bills. They should do the same. Its not fair to choke the very communities they serve until no one is left because they can no longer pay the taxes on the homes they raised their children in

I have had the honor to work with 138 municipalities over the last ten years and have seen the hard work the Mayors/ Presidents have done for their communities. But It is not enough for me to give up my RIGHTS.

The only Voice you really have is on a LOCAL LEVEL and HOME RULE takes that away from you. VOTE SMART on November 2, 2010. VOTE NO ON HOME RULE

Joan Marie Silke

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Saturday, January 8
8:00 a.m.
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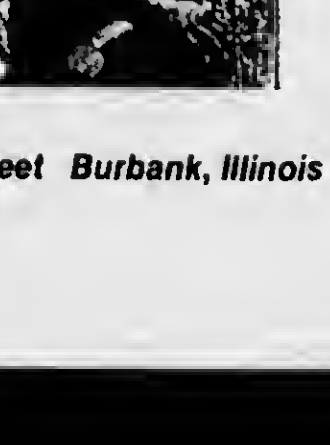

St. Laurence High School 5556 West 77th Street Burbank, Illinois
www.stlaurence.com

beyond ordinary
By: Jerry R. Haymaker

The Washington DC Sniper Shootings

Most of us who watch the news on a daily basis will easily recall the daily news reports of the pair of men shooting one person a week in the Washington , DC area over a period of about ten weeks in 2002. When the announcement was made that the investigation was over only one question was asked. The question was, "What happened to the last suspect". The answer given was that a person had contacted the police during the investigation and providing information where the police could expect the next shooting to occur so it would help capture the killers. The information was correct and I am the (clairvoyant) person that went to the police in Falls Church , Virginia . This is my account of these events. I had heard of the shootings going on for weeks from my home in Port Charlotte, Florida.

It occurred to me that because I had known about the 911 terror attacks by information gained in premonitions I had before that fateful day, maybe I would discover information relating to these current attacks by a visit to the Washington, DC area. I thought it over and decided to take a trip to find out if I was correct. Before I arrived in the DC area I had a feeling I would find the police searching for the killers in a particular area near Washington . When I had entered the area along the freeway I was struck by a booming mental voice repeating the name of " Falls Church ". While this was a bit upsetting as I drove down the busy freeway it did not impair my ability to control the car. I immediately said out loud in the car, "OK, I've got it, its Falls Church "!

The mental voice stopped as soon as I said that. While most normal people would think they are going crazy because of something like that I had grown somewhat accustomed to unusual messages like this and all of them were seriously accurate. The next shooting would be in Falls Church , VA. Now, what was I to do with this information? I kept getting a feeling I should go to the area I saw on the map where I expected the police to be looking for the killers. I checked the map and started searching for the road leading to the area. I missed the exit and had to make a long detour to get back on the freeway so I enter the roadway. This would later prove to be important concerning my timing.

After driving down the highway for what seemed like a long distance and seeing nothing unusual I decided to turn left at the next intersection and head back by way of the next road. When I got near the next intersection, I wanted to turn left but was left at a standstill by some very heavy traffic that wasn't going anywhere. I got out of my car to look past the other cars searching for an answer to the holdup. Just beyond the light toward the direction I was turning I could see the SWAT team surrounding the wrong car with their automatic rifles pointing in the direction of the driver. "He was lucky not to have a heart attack!" I thought, given the circumstances. My mind was racing. I had never been a suspect in a major murder investigation. The thought wasn't too appealing to me. I saw a lone policeman standing there when all the others had left and I wanted to turn the car around and approach him. He looked frustrated from what had just taken place. I could easily have shouted to them that they should be in Falls Church when they had the car surrounded. I had no plan on what to say to convince them to follow the information I had for them. (I would later determine that I should have told them how I had just arrived from Florida to help them and was able to find them the same way I knew where the killers would strike next).

Since the SWAT team does not advertise where they are going to ambush someone it might have convinced them. I needed some rest from the long drive and time to think. I pulled into a parking lot to take a nap on the front seat of the car. I chickened out on going to the police but was determined to return if the information I had was correct. I had heard on the radio about a $600,000.00 dollar reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the sniper. That could make an easy motive for divulging the information I had but I was concerned the police could somehow try to implicate me with false evidence. I had witnessed it personally in New Zealand under a much less important matter. That had been years before and in a different country but demonstrated how people can and will sometimes twist things to work out the way they want them by cheating. I was rather pragmatic about the reward. Would the police want to give a reward to someone they would surely suspect due to the information provided? I didn't think they would. I watched the news that next week and found out that the premonition was correct. A man was shot and killed outside a Home Depot store.

I was determined not to back down like I had before the 911 attack and returned to Washington before the next attack. As before, I was driving down the freeway and I had another premonition. This time the name of the town was "Ashland". I should have exited right there and would likely have found myself in Ashland. Instead I drove to Falls Church and spoke to a Sergeant about the information. She was nice and calmly noted the information I had for her. I asked if I could get a copy of the police report but she said it would take time to type it up and didn't know when it would be finished. She gave me her card and wrote the tip line number on the back. Then she asked to call if I had any further information. I left thinking of stopping in Ashland but never did. It had come to mind that if I stopped in Ashland I could have another premonition narrowing down the location to the exact store or parking lot. I had never done something exactly like this so following the trail seemed like the right thing to do. I had given them enough to help them narrow down the area from a giant to a pinpoint on the map. They had my address and phone number to call if they didn't capture the killers where I had told them. I would wait for their call. The next shooting was in Ashland but the man didn't die.

They never called me and two more people were shot in the proceeding weeks before the killers were captured. I'm certain the police spent a lot of time asking Malvo and Muhammad who they told about the shootings before doing it. They had a lot to say about each other but nothing more. Here were two men facing the death penalty and ready to supply any information they were asked about but had nothing to say about me. The police never contacted me even after the investigation and I would still like to have some documentation about my police report but will probably never get it. I just wanted proof that I had supplied useful information to them regarding their investigation in case a similar situation happened. I later found out that the Sheriff in charge of the investigation didn't inform his own men that the suspects they were seeking were African American.

Mother McAuley
Liberal Arts High School

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Nov. 30, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

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The cast of "Parlor Games," the fall play at Richards High School.

Richards to host fall play 'Parlor Games'

The drama department from Richards High School will present its fall play "Parlor Games" on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 20, 21, 22 and 23. Performances begin at 7 p.m. each day. Richards is located at 10601 S. Central Avenue. Tickets are $8.

The comedy follows practical joker Mort McNulty, who hosts his own wake so that he can hear what people will say about him after he's dead, before he's dead. Mort's wife, Tricia, gets unwillingly drawn into the action and apologetically tries to convince everyone that Mort is playing another joke. Many people attend the wake and, with the right amount of suggestion and imagination, convince themselves that Mort is dead and Tricia is in denial.

The mistaken identities, chases, and jokes within jokes within jokes culminate in Tricia turning Mort's wake into a surprise party as she tries to teach her husband a lesson about practical jokes. Cast member include Tricia McNulty -Emily Forberg; Mort McNulty - John Zahlmann; Roberta Kluzinsky – Rosa Gallagher; Dave Collins – Zac Hendrix; Judge John Fahey –Walter Humble; Kay Ingalls – Lizz Wallace; Harley Allenbrand – Robert Kurnat; Mrs. Grace McNulty – Katherine Katsivalis; Grandma – Andrea Azem; Ma – Allison Lonigro; Daughter – Lauren Davis; Diane Kukelski – Alex Lewis; Fiona Belanger – Kaitlin O'Brien; Alice Hochenback–Taylor Gabby.

She Loves Me a musical production presented by the Palos Village Players

The Palos Village Players will present SHE LOVES ME, a musical written by Joe Masteroff with music by Jerry Bock and lyrics by Sheldon Harnick. The production, the last show of the 2010 season, will be presented at 7:30 PM on November 5, 6, 12 and 13 with a 2 PM matinee performance on Sunday, November 7 at the Palos Park Recreation Center , 8901 W. 123rd Street .

The musical is based on the play PARFUMERIE and the film "The Shop Around the Corner" and takes place in 1930s Europe. Maraczek, the shop's owner is played by Bruce Fredrick (Tinley Park).

His clerks Georg, Ilona, Kodaly, Sipos Arpad and Amalia are played by Andrew Chandler West (Lisle), Sarah Callis (Orland Park), Len Weisler (Hickory Hills), Ken Evans (Oak Forest) Branden Scala (Orland Park) and Erin Haynes (Evergreen Park).. A chorus of customers, café waiters and patrons are played by Bob Rehfeld (Evergreen Park), Steve Hoxworth (Homer Glen), Carri McGrail (Hometown), Kristina Caputo (Oak Lawn), June Ryl-Kuchar and Lori Scala of Orland Park, Peg Crawford and Joyce Eddy of Palos Heights and Cathryn Seitz (Tinley Park).

The play takes place during the busy Christmas season. Amalia and Georg are "Lonely Hearts" pen pals but don't know each other's identity since no names have been exchanged. Georg eventually realizes who she is but struggles with how to tell her.

The Director and Musical Director is George Machay of Hinsdale, Pat Diepen of Orland Park is Assistant Director and Kathryn Cargill of Palos Heights is the Assistant Musical Director.

Tickets are $15 for adults and $12 for seniors and students. For reservations or information call 877-PVP-TIXS, Ext. 801. There is also a theater/buffet luncheon available at Hackney's Restaurant, 123rd and LaGrange Road for the Sunday matinee. Tickets are $26 and can be reserved by calling Hackney's at 708-448-8300.

Reviewing Theatre by Annette Dixon and the plays recommended

"SCORCHED"

This play is a story in which anyone can relate to it. It has suspense, mystery and love and yet the storyline is very cohesive. You may think you have the mystery solved but then you really don't care to solve the mystery. You become so interested in the characters that the plot isn't that important. There hasn't been a play as of yet that I was ever disappointed at Silk Road. If you are open minded about other cultures, you'll love this playhouse.

A SILK ROAD project is dedicated to showcasing playwrights of Asian, Middle Eastern an Mediterranean backgrounds. The works they select address themes that are relevant to the people of "The Silk Road" and their ultimate purpose is to make other aware of their culture and be able to see the important in this culture. Their current production "Scorched" is a Chicago Premiere, written by Wajdi Mouawad, a Lebanese writer, from French Canada, with a translation by Linda Gaboriau is one hat will keep you spellbound as the mysterious story unfolds.

Schedule:

Wednesdays: 7:30 pm* Thursdays: 7:30 pm Fridays: 8:00 pm Saturdays: 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm Sundays -4:00 pm

(*Denotes no Wednesday performance on October 20)

Location:

Pierce Hall at The Historic Chicago Temple Building, 77 W. Washington St, (lower level) Chicago.

Tickets:

$24 preview performances; $34 regular performances.Box Office:

The box office is located at 77 W. Washington St. (lower level), Chicago

Please visit http://www.srtp.org/ or call 312-857-1234 to purchase tickets. You can also try Hot-Tix and this play closes after November 7.

At Home at The ZOO

American's greatest living playwright pair his provocative classic A Zoo Story, the one act that launched his career fifty years ago, with a new prequel titled HOMELIFE. The life of three New Yorkers are changed forever as revelations and confrontations of one sunny afternoon sends them down surprising new paths. With shocking secrets to reveal, sharp truths to confront and hearts bursting with all the complexities of humanity, experiencing the intensity that is true Albee.

This Chicago Premier ends October 31 at Victory Gardens Theatre, Biograph Theatre, 2433 N. Lincoln Avenue Call 773.871.3000 tickets@victorygarden.org

Joffrey Ballet at the Auditorium Theatre

Ashley C. Wheater presents the 20th 2011 All Stars season. Opening on October 13, All Stars was a Company Premiere. Three New York choreographers, George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins and Christopher Wheeldon works were introduced. Stravinsky Violin Concerto was first on the program with April Daly and Miguel Angel Blanco and Victoria Jaiani and Temur Suluashvili. As stated to my guest I believe I saw this in Russia in 1992. She stated that it may have been possible I saw an excerpt of the full ballet but doubts it I would have seen this in Russia since the Russians wouldn't have allowed Balanchine's work in at that time. So after that remark, I was delighted to see the Toccata, Aria I and II and the Capriccio in its entirety.

As ever Wheater throws in a light comic approach to ballet, giving the audience a smile or two and this time it was the Tarantella with Allison Walsh and Derrick Agnoletti.

The program continued with Christopher Wheeldon's emotionally resonant "After the Rain". Again my friend reminded me this was her favorite Wheeldon's ballet and how she has seen it so many times in New York and how lucky we are to have this in Chicago. She attributes Wheater's brilliant insight into dance and hopes that the Chicago audience will appreciate the nuances that the New York audiences have embraced.

I had to admit it was different than what I was use to in Chicago, but I loved it. Victoria Jaiani and my favorite Fabrice Calmels, Valerie Robin and Matthew Adamczyk, April Daly and another favorite Miguel Angel Blanco.

The next Ballet was Jerome Robbins "The Concert with Victoria Jaiani, Matthew Adamczyk, April Daly.

The Joffrey Ballet "All Star" is available until the 24th of October. Single tickets are available for purchase at the box office, located in the lobby of 10 East Randolph Street or the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University Box Office, all Ticketmaster Ticket Centers, by phone at 800-982-2787 or online at www.ticketmaster.com

The Joffrey Ballet is grateful for the support from its 2010-2011 Season Sponsors and extends special thank to Abbott Fund and NIB Foundation, co sponsors of the Stars season, United Airlines, Official & Exclusive Airline, Weiss Memorial Hospital, Official Healthcare Provider, UBS, and more.

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Nutrition News And Notes

Enjoyable Ways To Eat Right

Fresh fruit, nonfat milk and other nutritious ingredients make a delicious drink that can be a healthful snack or quick breakfast or lunch

(NAPSA)—A healthful, nutritious lifestyle may be easier—and more fun—than many people realize. Here are a few hints from the experts at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and elsewhere that can help:

At Breakfast

• Stir low-fat or fat-free granola into a bowl of low-fat or fat-free yogurt. Top with sliced apples or berries.

• Add strawberries, blueberries or bananas to your waffles, pancakes, cereal, oatmeal or toast.

• Top toasted whole-grain bread with peanut butter and sliced bananas.

• Add vegetables such as bell peppers, broccoli, spinach, mushrooms or tomatoes to your egg or egg white omelet.

• For more wholesome goodness in less time than you may know, enjoy a fruit smoothie from a convenience store on your route.

At Lunch and Dinner

• Ask for more vegetable toppings and less cheese on your pizza.

• Add some cooked, dry beans to your salad. Or, if you have a sweet tooth, add chopped apples, pears or raisins.

• Add broccoli, green beans, corn or peas to a casserole or pasta.

• Add lettuce, tomato, onion and cucumber to sandwiches.

• To get additional nutrition, drink a fruit smoothie instead of soda or punch.

At Snack Time

• Try hummus and whole-wheat pitas.

• Dip bell pepper strips and broccoli into a low-fat or fat-free ranch dip.

• Top a cup of fat-free or low-fat yogurt with sliced fresh fruit.

• Drink a fruit smoothie.

A great smoothie to enjoy at any time of day is easily found in more than 5,000 convenience stores and other locations across the U.S. and Canada. They're not only delicious, but have an extra boost of antioxidant vitamins A, C and E and energy-boosting B vitamins, and minerals including calcium, zinc and iron. Plus, they're a good source of fiber. Freal smoothies feature nonfat milk and a full serving of all-natural fruit.

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In addition to smoothies, Freal also makes premium-quality classic milk shakes and gourmet frozen cappuccinos.

Learn More

For more nutrition information, fun facts, tips and recipes, visit www.freal.com or call (877) 367-7325.

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Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 20 | October 19, 2010

Oak Forest announces voting along with Halloween hours

City Hall is an early voting site for the November 2 general election. Early voting runs through Thursday, October 28 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

In an effort to make Halloween enjoyable for everyone, the City of Oak Forest has established trick or treat hours from 2 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, October 31.

American Academy of Pediatrics provide safety tips for Halloween:

ALL DRESSED UP:

·Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.

·Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and Trick or Treat bags for greater visibility.

·Because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider nontoxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives. Hats should fit properly to prevent them from sliding over eyes.

·When shopping for costumes, wigs and accessories look for and purchase those with a label clearly indicating they are flame resistant.

·If a sword, cane, or stick is a part of your child's costume, make sure it is not sharp or too long. A child may be easily hurt by these accessories if he stumbles or trips.

·Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.

·Teach children how to call 9-1-1 or their local emergency number if they have an emergency or become lost.

CARVING A NICHE:

·Small children should never carve pumpkins. Children can draw a face with markers. Then parents can do the cutting.

·Consider using a flashlight or glow stick instead of a candle to light your pumpkin. If you do use a candle, a votive candle is safest.

·Candlelit pumpkins should be placed on a sturdy table, away from curtains and other flammable objects, and should never be left unattended.

HOME SAFE HOME:

·To keep homes safe for visiting trick or treaters, parents should remove from the porch and from yard anything a child could trip over such as garden hoses, toys, bikes and lawn decorations.

Parents should check outdoor lights and replace burned out bulbs.

Wet leaves should be swept from sidewalks and steps.

·Restrain pets so they do not inadvertently jump on or bite a trick-or-treater.

ON THE TRICK OR TREAT TRAIL:

·A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.

·If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.

·Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.

Because pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, remind Trick or Treaters:

·Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.

·Carry a cell phone for quick communication.

Remain on well lit streets and always use the sidewalk.

If no sidewalk is available, walk at the far edge of the roadway facing traffic.

·Never cut across yards or use alleys.

·Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks as recognized by local customs. Never cross between parked cars or out driveways.

·Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing Trick or Treaters. Just because one car stops, doesn't mean others will.

Law enforcement authorities should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.

HEALTHY HALLOWEEN:

·A good meal prior to parties and trick or treating will discourage youngsters from filling up on Halloween treats.

Consider purchasing nonfood treats for those who visit your home, such as coloring books or pens and pencils.

·Wait until children are home to sort and check treats. Though tampering is rare, a responsible adult should closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.

Try to ration treats for the days following Halloween and remember the safety at all times.

The Orland-Palos Reber-Tesmond Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2604 and Orland Park Boy Scout Troop 318 will co-host their annual All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast and Blood Drive on Saturday, October 30, 2010 at the Orland Park Civic Center from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The Center is located at 14750 South Ravinia Avenue, one block west of LaGrange Road/US Route 45. The Admission is $5.00 for adults and $3.00 for children age ten and younger and includes pancakes, sausage, orange juice, milk and coffee. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

Village of Orland Park to Host Energy Assistance Fair

Utility Representatives Available At Orland Park Civic Center

The Village of Orland Park will host an Energy Assistance Fair on Monday, November 8, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Orland Park Civic Center, 14750 South Ravinia Avenue , one block west of LaGrange Road/US Route 45.

Representatives from ComEd, Nicor Gas and CEDA (Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County) will be present and attendees may apply for financial assistance through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Learn about payment programs and steps needed to prevent service disconnections or how to get reconnected. Energy saving tips and how to save on utility bills will be available.

Attendees should bring their most current utility bills, including Nicor and ComEd, most current proof of gross income for all household members age sixteen and older, proof of social security number for head of household only and social security number for other household members age sixteen and older, and proof of home ownership, including a current property tax bill, current mortgage statement or recorded mortgage.

For more information, call the Village of Orland Park Office of Special Services at 708/403-6188.

Tinley Park Park District holds a Pumpkin Creations Event

Join this program and create a great pumpkin for Halloween!

Don't miss this great Halloween event at the Tinley Park-Park District! Pumpkin Creations will be held on Thursday, October 21, from 4:00-5:15 p.m. at the Bettenhausen Recreation Center. Children age 5-12 are invited to use their imagination and creative talents to make a special pumpkin. Pumpkins and decorating materials are provided, along with a variety of treats and surprises. Children are asked to bring their own pumpkin carving knife to the event.

The program fee is $12 for residents and $18 for nonresidents. Advance registration is required and space is limited. Register now at the Bettenhausen Rec Center and get ready for some Halloween fun! For additional information, call the Park District at 708/342-4200.

Gift Stores, Santa Workshops, Jewelry stores, Children's Wear, Woman's and Men's Clothing stores, Shoe stores, Card Shops. Reserve your space early to advertise Early Bird Sales for Christmas Call for Specials at 312-624-8996.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 20 | October 19, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Palos Heights approves rezoning for the Jewel-Osco redevelopment

by Matt Mayer

The city council at a recent Palos Heights City Council meeting approved an ordinance to rezone two parcels of property on the southeast corner of 127th Street and Harlem Avenue for the Jewel-Osco redevelopment project. One parcel was rezoned from R to B and the other from B-1 to B. A special uses ordinance for the two outlets was also approved, which will allow Jewel to market the properties for two drive thru restaurants.

Other highlights: The city council approved the demolition, abatement, and site clean-up of a building at 12219 S. Harlem Avenue for a municipal parking lot. The building is slated to be razed shortly and will be paved and landscaped in the spring. The project will be paid for by a grant form the state. A liquor license was approved for CVS Pharmacy at Route 83 and Southwest Highway. The grand opening for CVS is slated for Sunday Oct. 24 - the projected city sales tax revenue is expected to be approximately $70,000 per year.

A motion was approved for the village attorney to draft an agreement between the City and Palos Community Hospital for a reimbursement of .30 percent of the low bid price for the pump station upgrade. This will be billed in two equal installments, one at the start of the project and the other at the conclusion. The amount will be allocated on the hospital's water bill.

A motion for the final payment to DGG Roofing for the recreation-building roof for $10,391.45 was approved as well as a motion requesting the city's support and services in 2011 for all Beautification Committee Programs and Events at the same level of support received in 2010, contingent upon approval of the 2011 budget.

A motion for the city's support and services in 2011 for the First Midwest Bank Southwest Half Marathon, contingent also upon the approval of the 2011 budget, was also approved. First Midwest Bank acquired the failed Palos Bank and Trust, which sponsored the marathon in the past.

Chicago Ridge approves electric supply contract

by Matt Mayer

Sheryl Tucker from Lower Electric LLC, a Northbrook, IL based independent utility consulting company, readdressed the board at the Oct/5 Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting. Regarding the cost and the length of a contract - to supply electricity to the village. "The village is currently paying .09 cents per kilowatt-hour and we can we can bring that down to .06 cents, Tucker said. The cost of electricity is determined by what it is trading at which is printed each Tuesday in the Wall Street Journal.

"I suggest a 1 year contract rather than a 3 year contract. This will allow you to save money-while you are doing due diligence at the end of the six months, we can go back to the supplier - if there needs to be any adjustment - we can do this at that time", Tucker said. "The transition from Com Ed to the suppher MC Squared has been absolutely seamless in other municipalities. And the village does have the option to return to Com Ed if so desired." Tucker said. Village Attorney Witous conenrred with the 1-year contract suggestion. The village board then proceeded to unanimously approve a 1-year contract.

Other highlights: Mayor Gene Siegel announced that he had recently attended an event with Governor Pat Quinn regarding the release of money. The previous governor resisted obtaining the federal money, which was in jeopardy of being sent to another state. Governor Quinn obtained the legislation to pass this capitol bill, which frees up approximately $500 million of capital improvement funds, Siegel said.

What this will do is allot local government, the villages and cities throughout the state, $1 million for the first year and $4 million per year for the next four years. There was an incorrect rumor during the conference that the govenor was going to sweep the Motor Fuel Tax, (MFT) Siegel said. What is slated to occur however is that the villages will receive the current amount of $100 million and each municipality will receive an extra $4.30 per capita, Siegal said.

This emphasizes how important the census was to the village. Receiving the correct count affects the distribution of monies, MFT and the Capital Improvement Fund. Chicago Ridge will receive in addition to $355,166, an additional $61,3409 as part of the capitol improvement. The village will receive this amount until the $500 million is exhausted, Siegel said.

Senator Dick Durbin kept warning the State of Illinois that a capitol improvement had to be passed because the money was sitting in Washington, earmarked for Illinois. Durbin said, "The previous governor didn't act on it. Finally, this governor did and I want to commend Governor Pat Quinn for doing this for local government." "This allotment is for local roads and doesn't include state or county roads - they're receiving a portion of this money also, Siegel said

ASSESSOR
ROBERT E.
MALONEY

OFFERS
OUTREACH
PROGRAM FOR
APPEALING

YOUR PROPERTY
ASSESSED
VALUATION

Palos Township is now in Appeal Season with the Board of Review until Nov. 5th, 2010.

An Outreach Program is scheduled for Oct. 26th, 2010 with the Board of Review in our Town Hall at Palos Township, 10802 S. Roberts Rd., Palos Hills.

Doors will open at 6:30 P.M. with the program to begin at 7:00P.M

Leo Jr. Club members

Senior Citizen dance tickets available at Shepard High School

Tickets for the annual Moonlight Harvest Senior Citizen Dance, an event that attracts hundreds, at Shepard High School are now available. Tickets will cost $8.

This year's dance will be Saturday, November 13 from 4 to 7:30 p.m. Shepard is located at 13049 S. Ridgeland Avenue, Palos Heights. Tickets may be purchased in the main office at Shepard.

The event features entertainment by the Teddy Lee Orchestra, a renowned big band group, dinner, dancing, and bingo.

Leo Club, the high school affiliate of Lions Clubs International, sponsors the Moonlight Harvest Dance

Palos Park Library presents Films in the Park

"Films in the Park" returns to the Palos Park Public Library on Thursday, October 21st, at 7:00 pm in partnership with Palos Fine Arts and will present films that focus on the "rhythm of art".

October's film, The Drummer, tells the story of a rebellious son of a savage triad boss who goes into hiding to save his life, encounters the mesmerizing Zen drummers and is changed by their austere way of life. Mandarin and Cantonese dialogue with English subtitles. Run time 115 minutes.

Light refreshments will be served before the movie followed by a discussion of the film. The program is free and open to the public. Call the library to register at (708) 448-1530. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Boulevard.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 20 | October 19, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Delay in County tax bill mailings may cause cash flow problems for Blue Island.

by Ronald Ayers

The City of Blue Island's ability to meet its payroll, and pay its bills in a timely manner may be in jeopardy due to a delay in Cook County mailing tax bills to residents, businesses and units of local government. The city's "cash flow" problem was brought to light by way of a letter from the Cook County Treasurers office read by Mayor Donald E. Peloquin during the city's 10-12-10 Council meeting held in the City Hall East Annex 2434 W. Vermont Street.

"According to this letter," said Mayor Peloquin, tax bills may not be mailed until Thanksgiving.(November 25.)That means that tax dollars won't start flowing to us until around Christmas." Fifth Ward Alderman Michael L. Janko expressed his concern that the "delay" in tax bill mailings would pose a "difficulty" for the city in meeting its payroll.

To alleviate this problem Janko asked Mayor Peloquin if "Furlough days" could be offered to city workers to offset the possibility of city employees not being paid. Mayor Peloquin said that Furlough days could not be implemented fast enough to help stem the city's cash flow problem. "Our problem is one of us not getting the money we are owed from the county, not a lack of dollars." Said Peloquin. Janko asked Mayor Peloquin how the city was faring in obtaining an eight hundred thousand dollar loan to help alleviate the city's cash flow problems. At the September 28, 2010 the city council meeting, the council voted 14 "Ayes" and 0 "Nays giving Mayor Peloquin, and Chief of Staff Mike Anastasia the authority to secure "around $800,000 in either a tax anticipation warrant or some kind of debt structure that would allow the city to get a cash influx until property tax bills or a reimbursement of state tax income tax dollars flowed to the city."

At the Tuesday 10-12-10 city council meeting Mayor Peloquin told Janko that: "The city has been turned down in efforts to get eight hundred thousand dollars to cover city payrolls." In other business: City Treasurer Carmine Bilotto submitted his report showing the state of the city treasury at the close of business on 9/3/2010. According to the report Blue Island's financial condition was as follows: · On hand last report: $1,328,143.02 · Received: $3,641,894.47 · Paid Out: $3,537,638.40 · Checking Balance: $1,432,399.09 · Short Term Investments: $0.00 · Long Term Investments: $266,318.92 · Total Fund Balance: $1,698,718.01 The city council approved the Finance Committee Reports of: · Payments of $139,967.22 in accounts payable for invoices paid as of October 12, 2010. · Gross Payroll for all city employees as of October 1, 2010 of $374,239.70. Net Payroll for the same period was $236,764.14. The city council approved an application granting Pedro Rosales a Special Use Permit to operate a restaurant-coffee shop on the premises located at 12739 S. Sacramento Avenue. The premises are located in a R-1, Single Family Residential zoning district. According to a letter submitted to the city council from the Blue Island Zoning Board of Appeals concerning the Rosales restaurant.

The establishment, maintenance, or operation of this special use will not be detrimental to or endanger public health, safety, morals, comfort, or general welfare. · The special use requested will not be injurious to the use and enjoyment of other property in the immediate vicinity. ·

The establishment of the special use will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of the surrounding property for uses permitted in the district. The Zoning board found that the issuance of the special use was in accordance with the standards set forth in Ordinance No. 2151 provided Rosales provides sufficient off street parking and complies with the City Building Codes and Fire Prevention Codes when making improvements and constructing additions.

Mega Business After Hours

Join the Alsip, Blue Island, Midlothian, Oak Forest/Crestwood area chambers, for our annual fall networking event. Come prepared to give a 30-second commercial about yourself or your company (optional), prize for the best commercial. Five Dollar admission includes split the pot and door prize drawings. RSVP by Oct. 25th to the Alsip Chamber of Commerce, 708-597-2668, alsipceede@aol.com

If you would like to donate food or a door prize, call us by Thurs. October 28, 5:30-7:30 p.m.at First Midwest Bank, 11900 S. Pulaski, Alsip

Crestwood Mayor Robert Stranczek gives Nicole Cooper and several of her classmates from the Alan B. Shepherd High School in Palos Heights, IL., a crash course in civics and local government at the conclusion of the Crestwood Village Board meeting October 7, 2010. (Photo for the Village View by Ronald Ayers)

Crestwood Village Board paves way for new business

By Ronald Ayers

The Crestwood Board paved the way for a new business to open in the village during deliberations at its October 7, 2010 Village board meeting held at the Crestwood Civic Center 14025 So. Kostner.

The village board voted unanimously to direct village attorney David B. Sosin to prepare a special use ordinance to permit Proshred Security to begin operations at 14029 South Cicero Avenue.

Proshred Security, owned by Rodney Quasny, has corporate offices in Orland Park, Illinois. Proshred is an on-site shredding business and recycling service that provides business with a convenient method for destroying confidential documents to safeguard private information.

In other business three (3) reports of standing committees were presented during the meeting.

Trustee James Fowler Water Department Chairman reported that the Water Department had:

·Obtained two final readings

·Verified five meter readings'

· Replaced six meters

· Jetted twelve sanitary main lines

· Replaced two broken b-boxes

·Checked sanitary mainlines

·Located and checked operation of five b-boxes

·Jetted three storm sewer lines

·Located fifty-seven requests for village utilities per J.U.L.I.E. dig notices

·Aided Public Works with various other projects.

Trustee William Wagner chairman of the Public Works Department reported that Public Works had:

·Repaired and maintained all Police, Fire and Public Works vehicles

·Maintained all village buildings

·Replaced and fixed street signs where needed throughout the village

·Worked on 32 street lights throughout village

·Checked storm sewers throughout village

·Removed debris from inlets and outfalls from storms

· Checked storm drainage outfalls

·Picked up trash in ditches and parkways

· Cleaned ditches on Rte. 83 between Cicero and Kostner.

Trustee Frank J. Gassmere, chairman of the Building and Plats Committee reported that:

·The total number of Permits issued for September, 2010 was Sixty (60)

·The total Valuation of Permits for September, 2010 was $298,586.00

·The total amount of Permits for September, 2010 was $634.25

Village View

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 9 | November 2, 2010

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Burbank board meeting report

by Julie Schabes

Burbank's Old Barn's Future Causes Speculation

Resident "Charles" questions the board over rumors regarding the outcome of the community's 87-year-old former banquet hall and restaurant, "Old Barn". Charles has heard everything from becoming a Mosque, to a Soup Kitchen, to a Jehovah's Witness Church. Mayor Klein explained that a church indeed has applied to the zoning department, however, this won't be presented before the board until December.

Roll em!!? Burbank's Park District continues to have their fun and free movie events! The next one is Tuesdays, 11/16/10 from 12:00 to 2:00 PM for residents 55 years and up. Only the newest hits are rented for optimum entertainment. Join your neighbors for this great experience as you munch on free yummy popcorn! Location: Newcastle Park Recreation Center. Phone-in registration required. Call (708)599-2070.

Burbank's City Hall is closed on 11/11/10 for Veteran's Day.

Motion has been approved authorizing the city attorney to initiate an eligibility study for the property located at 8100 South Parkside under the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act.

Burbank's residents have been working together more than ever to keep their community safe from the recent increase in daytime burglaries. Keeping a careful watch of any suspicious vehicles, persons, and activities always make a huge difference. Continued assistance in reporting vehicle descriptions along with license plate numbers ensures security.

The Burbank Firemen's Club is still working diligently toward the 2009 goal of obtaining updated essential equipment. The air breathing compressor for the Firefighters is 40 years old and needs replacing ASAP! Every dollar donated is directly used to benefit The Burbank Fire Department and our community. Financial support of tax deductible contributions may be sent to:

Burbank Firemen's Club Citizen Fund
c/o Cole Taylor Bank
5501 West 79th Street
Burbank, IL 60459

Motion approved for Resolution No. 10-1-10 requesting that Illinois Governor Pat Quinn move forward with requesting federal disaster reimbursement funds for public assistance for Cook County, Illinois for the flooding disaster of July 23 and 24, 2010. According to Mayor Klein, the application submitted to FEMA did not meet the 17+ million dollar threshold.

If you're ready for an exciting afternoon of Bingo, stop at Burbank Park District's Bingo & Social on 11/9/10 from 1:00 to 2:00 PM. Enjoy cookies and beverages as you clutch your good luck charms awaiting your fate! There will be donated prizes for each game. Free to Burbank Residents only, 55 years & up. Limit 20. Location: Newcastle Park Recreation Center. Phone-in registration required. Call (708)599-2070. For more information on Burbank Park District's events, visit www.burbankparkdistrict.org.

David Regan, Ryan Morgan, Frank Greco and Mayor Mike Howley

On Saturday, October 23rd, the inaugural "Roar and Run for Fun" 5k race took place in Hickory Hills. With the cooperation of the City of Hickory Hills and the Roberts Park Firefighters, the Hickory Hills Lions Club hosted a very successful 5k (3.1 mile) run/walk though the hills of Hickory Hills. The proceeds from the race will help the Hickory Hills Lions continue to supply food baskets and eye care to the needy families in our area. Medals were presented by Mayor Mike Howley to the top finishers. For a complete list of results go to www.racetime

Hickory Hill's Board Meeting reports

by Julie Schabes

Hickory Hill's Blood Drive Tackles Blood Shortages

Hickory Hills Community Center Blood Drive Sunday November 7th 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM! Former Chicago Bears "Shaun Gayle" will be signing autographs 10AM to noon! He played 11 seasons for the Chicago Bears (1984–1994). He was a member of the Bears squad that won Super Bowl XX in 1985! He was also a member of the "Shuffling Crew" in the video "The Super Bowl Shuffle". One of Gayle's highlights is returning the shortest punt for a touchdown in NFL history, when he returned a punt 5 yards for a touchdown against the New York Giants in the Bears 1985 divisional playoff victory.

So grab your Bears memorabilia for an autograph while you donate blood to make a difference in someone's life! Vince Uzzardo of Hickory Hills Lions offered a sincere thanks for all the fantastic support in the 5K Run. It was so successful that it doubled any profits from their past steak sales. He has received wonderful feedback from many participants, along with a few joking that they now understand why its called "Hickory Hills" rather than "Hickory Flats". The runners apparently found the ups and downs of the terrain to be an unexpected yet pleasant challenge. Vince announced that this will now be an annual event.

Mayor Howley explained he is aware of the trees down on 95th St and reassured that the responsible contractors will take care of it. Stagg Music Boosters Craft Fair is November 13th 9AM to 4PM & 14th 10AM to 3PM. This show is a major fund-raiser for their music students! The main emphasis of the show is on hand craftsmanship. They have over 3000 visitors annually at this popular event! For more information contact Karen Lencioni at (708)361-8298.

Mayor Howley noted the second meeting in November would fall on Thanksgiving and would need to be canceled. After some discussion, it was decided the November Committee meeting will be scheduled on an as-needed basis.

Mark Your Calendars: • November 9th from 3 to 6:30 P.M., a free Thanksgiving meal is provided at the Community Center. Donations to the troops and postage are welcomed. Join your neighbors for a cozy holiday meal!

• Veterans Day Service is at 6:00 P.M. on Nov. 11th. (The City Council Meeting remains scheduled for 7:30 P.M. this same evening.) • Music Boosters of Stagg High School Arts & Crafts Shows Nov. 13th & 14th. • Tree Lighting Ceremony shall be Nov. 23rd. • Upcoming dates: Kids Christmas Party is Dec. 12th. • House Decorating Contest is December 14th.

Evergreen Park approves lighting upgrade

by Matt Mayer

The village board at the Oct. 18 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting approved a request from Public Works Director Bill Lorenz to advertise for bids for the for "2011" lighting upgrade. The following buildings will be included in this upgrade: Storage building 3330 W. 93rd Street; Old Fire House, 2700 W. 97th Place; Village Hall, 9418 S. Kedzie Avenue; Water Department, 3125 W. 89th Street; Yukich Park concessions stands; Duffy Park concessions stands; Street Garage, 3225 W. 93rd Street for a total cost of $78,401.86.

The village is in the process of receiving two grants - one is an Electric Energy Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) for $47,670.86 and the other is an Illinois Department of Community and Economic Opportunities (IDCEO) grant for $30,731.60. "The project will cost the village nothing however the village will be reaping energy benefits for years, which will result in a substantial savings for energy", Mayor Sexton said.

"The old lighting will be removed and low energy LED lighting will be installed. The savings to the village will be $17,000 per year for electricity for these particular buildings. If the village spent the $78,000 for this project, it would have taken 2.8 years to recover the money," Sexton said.

In a telephone conversation with Sexton following the meeting, he said "This is the third such project Bill Lorenz has done like this and he deserves all the credit for correlating this project".

The board also approved a request from Lorenz to purchase a used 2005 NorAm 65E Grader with 444 hours on it. "The unit is American made and is practically new. Small graders are needed in the alleys and are difficult to obtain" Lorenz said. Another request from Lorenz for the authorization of additional funds in the amount of $12,833.59 for the "2010" alley paving contract was also approved. The original contract was $69,006.00- the additional amount is needed to excavate, which will allow proper drainage.

Pictured from the left are Richard Aguilar, Trustee, Officers Michael Shrake, Aaron Petrulis and Mark Donahue, President of F.O.P. Chicago Lodge #7.

The Fraternal Order of Police Chicago Lodge 7 awarded the Distinguish Service Award

Mark Donahue, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, presented the Distinguished Service Award to Chicago Police Officers Michael Shrake and Aaron Petrulis. Officers Michael Shrake and Aaron Petrulis were responding to a call of "shots fired" in the 8200 block of South Marquette.

Upon arrival, the officers observed a subject pointing a handgun at a group of individuals. Both officers announced their office and instructed the offender to drop the weapon. The offender refused and proceeded to fire multiple times at the officers. The officers returned fire and a foot chase ensued, during which time the offender continued to point his weapon at the officers and pull the trigger. Officer Petrulis subsequently observed the offender throw the weapon under a porch on 82nd and Marquette and continue running through the gangway at that location.

The offender was apprehended and the weapon was recovered and found to have a live misfired round in the chamber. Further investigation revealed that the offender had been shot by the officers. The offender was charged with two counts of Attempted Murder. Donahue stated, "Due to these officers' bravery and courage in a difficult situation, a dangerous offender and his weapon were removed from the streets of the City of Chicago."

Donahue concluded by stating "It is with great appreciation that the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, presents Officers Michael Shrake and Aaron Petrulis with the Distinguished Service Award".

Oak Lawn presents check to Park Lawn

by Matt Mayer

Mayor Dave Heilmann was absent at the Oct. 26 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting due to the passing of his father, Joseph Heilmann. The board extended its condolences to the Heilmann family.

The village presented a check for $17,507 from the proceeds from recently held "Fall On The Green" to Park Lawn School, which is located in Oak Lawn for the past 55 years and offers programs for individuals with special needs. Park Lawn officials Jim Weiss and Jonathon Perry said they were proud to be members of a community, which is so supportive. They also thanked the village as well as all the people who volunteered and participated in the Fall on the Green and said the monies received will benefit the schools programs and its students in the coming year.

Trustee Tom Phelan and Trustee Alex Olejniczak were also absent and the Fall on the Green financial results presentation was tabled for another meeting.

The board approved a resolution pertaining to a grievance procedure under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The other item on the consent agenda was tabled until the next meeting.

Village manager Larry Deetjen said that 241 Oak Lawn homes were without power on Tuesday. He said that a homeowner must call Com Ed to report an outage so they have an address, which enables them to get to the outage quickly. Most of the services were restored that night, Deetjen said.

Trustee Jerry Hurckes said that the leaf-raking program would take place on Saturday Nov 13 and Nov 20. The village is seeking school-aged volunteers for the senior leaf-raking program.

Tinley Park Passes Ordinance Rezoning Senior Housing Apartment Project

by Ronald Ayers

The Tinley Park Village Board passed an ordinance at its October 19, 2010 board meeting held at village hall 16250 So. Oak Park Avenue, repealing the zoning and special use permits for a senior citizens facility planned for the village.

Passage of ordinance number 2010-O-043, repealing ordinance 2010-O-022 entitled, "Ordinance rezoning certain property and granting certain variations, Thomas place", comes approximately two weeks after the Naperville firm slated to build the senior facility withdrew its proposal to build the four story one hundred unit apartment community for independent seniors.

The announcement that Ryan Companies, a Naperville construction and real estate management firm, would not build the Thomas Place senior housing project at 179th and Harlem, was made after the Village Board had adjourned its regular 10-5-2010 village board meeting, gone into executive session for approximately twenty minutes, then reconvened.

At the reconvened 10-5-2010 meeting, Board President Edward J. Zabrocki produced a letter the village had received from Ryan Companies dated October 1, 2010. In the letter, Ryan Companies expressed its desire to withdraw from the project: "Based on a lack of appropriate financing."

Village President Zabrocki said 10-5-2010 that due to Ryan Companies withdrawal, the village would repeal the ordinance which granted a rezoning from single-family residential (R1) to high-density residential (R7) and return the property to its original "R1" single family zoning.

"Legally, the rezoning and variations could be left in place, but it has been the Village's practice to repeal grants of zoning for projects that did not move forward." Said Mayor Zabrocki 10-5-2010.

In addition to Ryan's problem with securing financing for the senior project, the property upon which the Thomas Place Senior facility was to be built is in a recently adopted Urban Design Overlay District (UDOD).

A UDOD is a mapped area where special regulations are used by local governments to coordinate development through zoning regulations which separate uses of land into separate zones with specific activities permitted within each zone.

Village officials stressed that the village must maintain the legal ability to accept or reject any future proposals, ensuring that they conform to the guidelines of the district.

"Per past practices of the Village, this Ordinance repeals the rezoning and special use permit and returns the zoning to it's prior classification of R-1 (Single Family Residential)

"By returning the property to R-1, the Village will maintain maximum control over how the properties are developed in the future," said Trustee Gregory Hannon, chairman of the Village Board's Planning and Zoning Committee during the October 19, 2010 board meeting.

Dan Patlak candidate for the Board of Review

Annette Dixon is concerned about tax appeals and whether they will be met fairly through the current board of review. The question asked answered this for me.

What areas are you most focused on in your campaign? What have you heard from citizens as the biggest issues?

Citizens want to have confidence that their appeals are being analyzed fairly. This cannot happen until there is some political balance at the Board and in the county tax system as a whole. The Board of Review is currently run by three Machine Democrats. Every other constitutional office in Cook County including all offices involved in property taxes are run by the Machine as well. Without a check and balance in county government from the minority Party the temptation to use these offices for partisan political purposes rather than serving the best interests of taxpayers is immense. We need to elect qualified Republicans to assure taxpayers that they are being treated fairly.

Our campaign is also running on the proposition that taxpayers deserve to be represented by people who are qualified to serve in their respective offices. In the case of the Board of Review, incumbent Commissioner Brendan Houlihan has no background or experience that even suggests he should be heading an agency that adjudicates assessment appeals. By the same token, my background includes working as an analyst full-time for eight years at the Board of Review.

I have been elected twice as a local township assessor and am a Certified Illinois Assessing Officer. I've held a real estate broker's license for the past twenty four years and am a Graduate of the Real Estate Institute. I graduated from Valparaiso University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. In addition, I was a volunteer leader for a national organization called Citizens Against Government Waste and I testified before the Cook County Board against the original three-quarter cent sales tax.

Our campaign is proud of the fact that it is endorsed by the National Taxpayers United of Illinois PAC, the Illinois Committee for Honest Government and the Chicago Tribune.

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The Southwest Symphony Orchestra presents Landscapes and Seascapes

Landscapes & Seascapes on Saturday, November 13th, 2010 the Southwest Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of David L. Crane, presents Landscapes & Seascapes. The evening begins with a ghost ship that is doomed to sail the seas forever, the Overture to the Flying Dutchman by Wagner.

Then we are transported "where the multitude of stars hover over the mysteries of the deep" with The Enchanted Lake by Liadow.

From there we visit the landscapes portion of the concert starting with In Nature's Realm by Dvorak. Then we travel to Arizona and experience 5 different scenes typical of the Grand Canyon in the Grand Canyon Suite by Grofe.

There will be a power point presentation of photographs during the Grand Canyon Suite to enhance the musical delights you will be hearing. The evening ends on a lighter note with The Sound of Music Selections, written by Rodgers and Hammerstein and arranged by Bennett.

The concert is located at Trinity Christian College's Ozinga Auditorium, 6601 West College Drive, Palos Heights. Concert begins at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday November 13, 2010. Ticket prices are $5.00 for students, $15.00 to $20.00 for seniors, adults $20.00 to $24.00, children under 12 are free. Parties of 10 or more may purchase tickets for $10.00 per person.

The not-for-profit Southwest Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1964 and serves audiences throughout the south and southwest suburban communities.

Learn more at southwestsymphony.com, call 708-802-0686, email southwestsymphony@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook for more information.

Employees of Longhorn Steakhouse hand out samples of their barbecue ribs at the 2010 Community Expo held at Carl Sandburg High School.

Longhorn was part of the Culinary Corner section of the Expo. The Expo is held every year and is sponsored by the Orland Park Area Chamber of Commerce, Advocate Hope Children's Hospital and Carl Sandburg High School

St. Rita announces their novena and other events

Perpetual Novena to St. Rita – Thursday, November 4, 2010 at 7pm All are invited to the next monthly St. Rita of Cascia Novena Mass to be held Thursday, November 4, 2010 at the St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, 7340 S. Western Ave., Chicago, IL. Confessions will take place at 6pm; Mass and novena prayers will begin at 7pm. Secure and ample parking is available.

St. Rita High School Open House I – Sunday, November 7, 2010 from 12pm to 3pm St. Rita of Cascia High School invites 7th and 8th grade young men and their families to visit the St. Rita campus, 7740 S. Western Ave., for an Open House. St. Rita's Open House will be held on Sunday, November 7th from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. Students and families will be able to take a tour, learn about all aspects of St. Rita, and meet teachers, coaches, students, and parents. St. Rita awards over $1,000,000 in financial aid and scholarships annually. Prospective students can visit www.strihs.com/admissions

Mark your Calendars! St. Rita High School Open House Dates Honors Open House – Tuesday, November 9, 2010 6:30pm Open House II – Sunday, December 5, 2010 – 12pm to 2pm

Things to do in Evergreen Park

Nov 6th - Evergreen Park Environmental Commission is hosting it's Annual Pumpkin Smash at the Community Center, 3450 W. 97th St. from 4-6pm.

Come out and smash those old mushy pumpkins and then they will be recycled. Fall treats will be served.

Annual Bookmark Contest at the Evergreen Park Public Library

Evergreen Park residents in Grades Kindergarten – 6th are invited to participate in the library's annual bookmark contest and create a bookmark using the theme, "One World, Many Stories". Official entry forms may be picked up at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy and are due Saturday, November 27 at 5:00pm.

Schools Out Movie Matinee at the library All ages are invited to enjoy their school holiday at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy.

November 5 and December 3 from 6:00 until 8:00pm. Knitters of all ability levels are welcome. There is a one time registration fee $5 EP resident, $10 nonresident, which includes needles and yarn for beginners. For more information call 708-422-8522

Seuss Celebration! at the Evergreen Park Public Library? All ages are invited to the Evergreen Park Library, 9400 South Troy , on Saturday, November 6 at 11:00 am. to meet the Cat from Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat! Participants may bring their camera to take pictures with the Cat.

Sunday Lego Club at the Evergreen Park Public Library Lego Club for children in kindergarten through fifth grade will meet on Sunday, November 7th at 1:30 pm at the Evergreen Park Public Library, 9400 South Troy

SUPER BINGO
Fundraiser hosted by
St. Patricia School Parent's Club
Sunday, November 14, 2010
Doors open 12:00 Noon
Bingo 1:00 p.m.
Split The Pot, Pull Tabs, Food & Beverages
Ticket sales are non refundable. Ages 16+ welcome
Parish Center/Gym
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Hickory Hills, IL
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St. Laurence High School Presents
Viking Tailgate Trivia Night
Saturday November 13, 2010
St. Laurence High School • 5556 W. 77th St.
Burbank, IL 60459
708-458-6900
Doors Open at 6:00PM Kickoff at 7:00PM
Game Plan:
Ten people to a table (Reserved under one name)
Cost $150.00 Prepaid
Bring your own food or Order food from area restaurants
Beer, Wine, Mike's Hard Lemonade, pop and water will be sold.
Raffle / Split the Pot/ Music
No outside liquor allowed
Please send Request: Attention St. Laurence Mothers' Club
Must be 21 year old to play
Tables are given on a first paid, no tables will be held without payment.

Editorial

Every person's duty to this country and for the future of this country is to get out and vote! If you have voted early,wonderful you won't have to wait in long lines. If you didn't vote, don't forget Election Date Tues., November 2, 2010

I have been hearing some real good news about how the public is beginning to feel about the candidates for various offices. Some feel that Brady is the one to be elected and others feel Quinn seems to be honest, but doesn't speak well

Scott Lee Cohen is the one to vote for We already know he can win an election and we also know he gave it up within days after the big guns on the Democratic party begged him to do so. Another good thing from what the doorman said is that he would have a better chance to win, if he would have announced his candidacy earlier. Who could forget the multi illuminance pawn broker.

Brady, Quinn, Cohen all running for Governor.

Oh for Senator we have the two fellows that you keep hearing about ,and both candidate's commercials are so similar all spewed with venom.

This is such an interesting race, sometimes I believe only the candidates get so enthused. Well, I haven't voted yet and I have looked at each candidate's record and still have not decided which candidate I would like to see in office.

So I'll go to the polls about 6:50 p.m. after listening to the polls and remarks from newscasters all day long, and vote for the one who is losing by a long shot. He or she either doesn't have enough money for the election or he or she must be so honest nobody cares about them, or they just didn't get the President support.

I know you're tired of everyone telling you to vote for a special person, but I'm going to ask those who are interested in lowering their property taxes to vote for Dan Patlak, Commissioner of the Board of Review.

Queen of Peace Announces New President – Anne O'Malley '75

The Congregation of the Dominicans of Sinsinawa, on the recommendation of the Board of Directors of Queen of Peace, is pleased to announce the appointment of Anne O'Malley to the position of President of Queen of Peace High School, effective Dec. 1, 2010. The President Search Committee, as well as the Board of Directors, made a unanimous recommendation.

"With excitement, I look forward to partnering with Anne O'Malley as she takes on the position of new President of Queen of Peace," Principal Mary Kay Nickels said. "In the tradition of the school, she will assume the leadership role and continue the mission of Queen of Peace and the Dominicans of Sinsinawa. We are blessed."

O'Malley, a 1975 graduate of Queen of Peace, worked for "USA Today" in a number of positions most recently as Director of Advertising Sales - for the past 20 years.

"At this stage in my life, my devotions and interests are more philanthropic," said O'Malley, who received a B.A. in Communications from Marquette University and numerous awards and achievements from "USA Today." "I am very anxious to get started at Peace. The process of coming on board was phenomenal - that experience alone made this opportunity a must-have."

O'Malley points to a number of reasons why she wanted to become President of Queen of Peace - the first being the opportunity to make a difference in the development of Peace and to become involved with an institution to which she is committed, and secondly, to get the word out about the inspiration of a Catholic and Dominican education for young women through recruitment and raising funds.

"Queen of Peace was the right place for me to be at 13 years old. A lot of things have changed since I was 13, but young ladies do not change," O'Malley said. "Queen of Peace is a great environment to feel a sense of confidence, inclusion and involvement - opportunities girls may not get in other environments."

She believes her strengths in the corporate world - new business development, recruiting, integrated marketing, creative branding and leadership development - will translate well to the school setting.

"There is a lot of change everywhere, and we are all getting used to that," O'Malley said. "At "USA Today," my skill set in that organization was making the transition from print to digital. I like the challenge of learning something new."

As a graduate of St. Bede the Venerable Grammar School, O'Malley has a strong familiarity with the South Side of Chicago and credits Queen of Peace for her "external, outgoing personality."

"I like the collaborative influence of an organization, school and family," she said. "Nobody does anything on their own; you need a team, so I am looking forward to that part."

Sister's coming back to St. Joseph's!

See Sister's Newest Show!

You laughed along with Sister last year when she presented the hilarious "Sister's Christmas Catechism" right here at St. Joseph's last winter. Now the same Sister is offering up her **hilarious lessons** on the **Sacraments of Marriage** and **Last Rites**, including her own wacky version of ***The Newlywed Game!***

Classroom participation is a must, so bring your sense of humor for some more quality time with Sister!

Sunday, November 21
Brunch at 2 p.m., show at 3 p.m.
School hall.
Tickets: $25 presale,
$30 at the door. Cash Bar.
For tickets call Liza Santiago
708-458-0501

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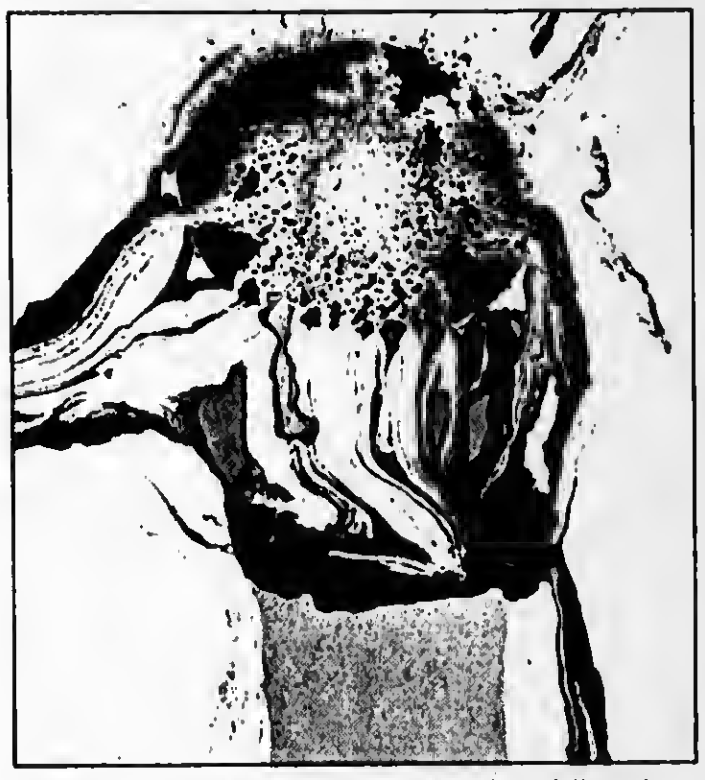

Sadamassa Motonaga Untitled, 1963 Oil and Gravel on Canvas

Creating What has Never Been currently in exhibition

Floating World Gallery recently celebrated their 1st anniversary at 1925 North Halstead St., Chicago. Roberta and Bill Stein have been in business for over 25 years.

The Gallery is a must see building, architecturally speaking. The current exhibit of famous Japanese ceramics and paintings will be on display until November 19.

The exhibition features more than two dozen works including masterpieces in Japanese postwar painting, including Sadamasa Motonaga's "Untitled" work from 1963, previously exhibited at MOMA's 1965 watershed exhibition of Japanese postwar painting. Also included are works by some of the most sought after artists in the ceramic art world today.

FWG's next exhibition, "Behind Paper Walls: Self-Printed Masterworks by Jun'ichiro Sekino" running from Dec. 3, 2010 to Jan. 14, 2011, will feature an impressive selection of works, many never before exhibited, and provide a keen insight into this master artist who pushed the limits of the art of woodblock printmaking.

Through exhibitions, lectures and special events FWG hopes to educate the public and increase awareness of the rich world of modern Japanese art. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m., and by appointment. For more information call 312-587-7800 or email artwork@floatingworld.com.

Winter Wonderland dinner dance sponsored by Orland Township

Orland Township is asking you to get into the Christmas spirit and join them for their Winter Wonderland Dinner Dance for seniors, age 55 and over. The dinner dance will be held on Thursday, November 18, 2010 at the Orland Chateau, 14500 S. LaGrange Road, Orland Park, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Tickets are necessary and may be purchased at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., Orland Park. Resident tickets are available for $16.00. Nonresident tickets are available for $21.00. Ticket price includes a family style meal and entertainment by the Ken Jandes Orchestra.

Orland Township serves the communities of Orland Park, Orland Hills, the western half of Tinley Park, and the unincorporated area of Orland Township. The Orland Township office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m. For more information, contact Marie Ryan, Senior Services Coordinator, at (708) 403-4222.

Acorn Public Library announces program on College Financial Aid

The Acorn Public Library will host a program about getting the most out of the college financial aid system on Thursday November 4 at 7 PM.

This program, entitled Don't Pay the College Sticker Price!, will be presented by Certified Financial Planner Joseph Orsolini.

Mr. Orsolini's presentation will focus on strategies to maximize need based financial and eligibility, target the right colleges for merit based financial aid, and exploit tax-saving opportunities.

For many families college tuition is the largest expense they will ever face and the escalating pace of tuition inflation has become downright terrifying.

The college financial aid system, which includes scholarships, grants, student loans and tax-saving opportunities, was designed to help relieve this expensive burden. This system provides relief for all parents, not just low or moderate income families.

Armed with an understanding and knowledge of the college and process, a college education may become more affordable and less of a financial burden.

Joe Orsolini, a Certified Financial Planner and Certified College Planning Specialist, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in finance from Bradley University. He is a former chapter president of the Independent Accountants Association of Illinois. He is also is a member of the National Financial Aid Practitioners Alliance and National Institute of Certified College Planners.

As a respected authority on college planning, Mr. Orsolini's work has been featured in a variety of media outlets, including Kiplinger's Safe Investing, the CLTV News program Your Money, Chicago Parent magazine, and Home & Family Finance radio.

Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in Oak Forest. Interested individuals are encouraged to call (708) 687-3700 or visit the library to register their attendance. This program is free to the public.

Antiques Program

Do you have a "family heirloom" that you treasure, but you're not sure of its value? The Friends of the Midlothian Public Library is sponsoring its annual antiques program at 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 4, at the library. Participants may bring one item (or a picture of a large item) of interest for discussion. Mary Beth Gannon Keegan will be the guest speaker. The Midlothian Public Library is located at 14700 S. Kenton.

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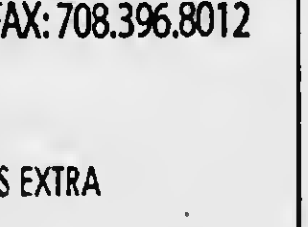

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Musichorale Community Choir would like to welcome our newest members: (pictured from left to right) Jessica Mason, Hailey Bramwell, Kim Rohde, Marcelle Wilkins, Lisa Tortorello, David Walsh and Charles Tortorello.
They will be singing in their 1st concert: "NOEL BELLS" on December 12,2010 at Trinity Christian College - Ozinga Auditorium. For additional information please visit our website: www.musichorale.org

Justice Police Department Ensures Justice

by Julie Schabes

Modern advances in technology for those who serve and protect! The Justice Police Department has obtained a cutting edge tool to slash those traffic violations, called a MDVR (mobile digital video recording system). This is being utilized to monitor all forms of traffic arrests including but not limited to DUI's and reckless driving. This will ensure accuracy if anything is challenged. Thanks to State and Federal Grants, this project was paid for 100%.

Mayor Kris Wasowicz of Justice and Mayor Steve Landek of Bridgeview are hosting a Veterans' Day Celebration Dinner at Toyota Park on Saturday November 13th at 4pm. The festivities will include guest speakers, dining, dancing, and entertainment. Our honored local Veterans from Justice and Bridgeview will be invited to attend along with their guests at no cost. However, a cash bar will be available. An RSVP is required, so please contact Jeff Kranig at (708)924-6107 for more information.

At the President and Board of Trustees Second Regular Board Meeting of October, motions were approved for ordinances involving the TIF No. 4(Archer Rd Corridor) to include: The redevelopment plan and project, designating the redevelopment project, and adopting tax- increment financing for the redevelopment project area.

The Village has made extremely diligent efforts in getting information to all residents for Roberts Rd Construction Projects. If anyone has questions during the construction project, please contact Steve Hoefferle at (708)599-8980 or Village of Justice at (708)458-2520.

A lesson in savings! Wilkins Elementary School collected over $500 from box tops coupons and pop tops. This was used to purchase classroom books and playground equipment. Lets keep up the fantastic work toward a greater learning experience for our children!

Children's Bingo at Palos Park Library

Try your luck at After School Bingo at the Palos Park Public Library on Thursday, November 18th, at 4:30pm. Children ages five and up are invited to join us for an hour of bingo fun and prizes. Let the games begin! The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park, IL. No registration required. For more information call the library at (708)448-1530 or visit us on-line at www.palosparklibrary.org

Palos Park Public Library announces a popular program

The Book & Film Series returns to the Palos Park Public Library on Wednesday, November 10th at 2:00 pm with We Were Soldiers based on the book by Lt. Col. Harold Moore.

This book and movie explores the courage, valor and loyalty among an elite American combat division in the Vietnam War sent into battle against overwhelmingly odds.

Run time 1.38 minutes. This program is free and open to the public. All who attend will be entered in a raffle to win a free copy of the book.

Didn't read the book? Come out anyway! Join us to judge a book by its movie. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Boulevard.

Call the library to register at 448-1530, or for more information, visit the library on-line at www.palosparklibrary.org.

Share a Story at the Palos Park Public Library on Thursday, November 11th, at 4:30pm.

Children in 1st, 3rd grade are invited to read a book featuring the character-of-the-month, share the story with other reading friends, and make a craft. November's character-of-the-month is Mr. Putter and Fabby. To register for this event contact the library at (708)448-1530

Smith Village hosts memory support meeting

Smith Village free Memory Support meeting to suggest successful skills for communicating with dementia sufferers.

Session to start 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 9.

Area residents and the families of people who may have dementia or Alzheimer's disease are invited to attend a free program on the proper communication techniques to use with them, at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 9, at Smith Village, at 2320 W. 113th Place.

Diane Morgan, the dementia care coordinator who leads these monthly support groups at Smith Village, says, "It's important to remember these are adults with dementia, so don't talk down to them as if they were children."

The 60-minute meeting, designed for the adult children of seniors with memory loss challenges, and light refreshments will be served. Please call 773-474-7300 to reserve a seat.

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Comfort Keepers provides the kind of in-home care services that help people remain safe and independent in the comfort and familiar surroundings of their own home. We're proud to be happy to arrange a free in-home visit to help you learn more.

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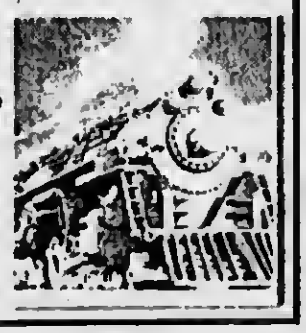

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Limit 2

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Leslie Goddard presents Jacqueline Kennedy at the Acorn Public Library

The Acorn Public Library District will present a performance of actress and historian Leslie Goddard as First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy on Thursday November 11th at 7 PM. Goddard will portray Kennedy as she was in January of 1964, recently widowed and trying to figure out how to live a new life on her own.

Jackie will tell her own story, including her marriage to Senator John F. Kennedy in 1953, her conflicted reaction to her husband's election to the U.S. presidency in 1961, and her struggle to retain her privacy in the face of intense media attention. In a climactic revelation, she will recount the story of the assassination and will come to a realization about the future for herself and her children.

Trained as a historian, Leslie Goddard earned a Ph.D. from Northwestern University specializing in U.S. cultural history, American studies, and women's history. She also holds both a master's and a bachelor's degree in theater and a master's degree in museum studies.

Her programs combine her experience as a museum educator and actor with her background as a researcher and historian. Goddard writes and lectures extensively on American history in the 19th and early 20th century, with particular expertise in the areas of women's history and U.S. cultural history. She has presented numerous lectures and workshops for museums, community centers, and civic organizations. The Acorn Public Library is located at 15624 S. Central Avenue in Oak Forest.

Interested individuals are encouraged to call (708) 687-3700 to register their attendance. This program is offered free to the public.

Moraine Valley to host 'Workman's Compensation' program

Get a look at the legal and medical aspects of workman's compensation claims during the "Managing Workman's Compensation in a Challenging Economy" program at Moraine Valley Community College on Thursday, November 4, from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

The panel discussion will be in the Fogelson Theater, in Building T, on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills. The cost to attend is $20. The program is ideal for human resources managers, safety personnel, municipal staff and officials, plant managers, claim representatives, and others who handle workman's compensation claims.

The presenters are Carrie Boris, attorney, and Phyllis Majka, president of Mica & Associates. Boris, a principal in Boris Law Offices, is a consulting attorney to McGuire-Woods, LLP, representing self insured corporations before the Illinois Workers Commission, the Illinois Circuit Courts, and the Illinois Appellate Court. In addition, she advises corporations on self-insurance compliance matters, third-party administration contracts, and works compensation insurance policy addition. Majka, who also is a Workman's Compensation Cost Management and Case Management consultant, has served as the Corporate Workers' Compensation director of the 16th fastest growing HMO in the United States, and developed the Workers' Compensation Managed care division that serves Illinois, northwest Indiana, and Arkansas.

She also has served as the Corporate Workers' Compensation consultant for General Mills companies and subsidiaries throughout the United States and Canada. Register for this noncredit course in person at the Registration Office, located in S125 or by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9556).

Participants also can register online at morainevalley.edu by selecting "Register for Noncredit Classes" under Hot Topics, then clicking on "Prospective Students" and finally "Search, register and pay for noncredit classes."

For more information about the course, call Workforce Development and Community Services at Moraine Valley at (708) 974-5735.

Gluten Free Baking with Betsy

Sunday, November 7th at 2:00 p.m. Gluten free lifestyle expert Betsy Thompson is back with us again to share her great baking recipes.

Bring your own tried and true recipe to share with the group. Gear up for the holidays! Gluten free kids are invited with their parent. Visit Betsy's blog at www.glutenfreebetsy.com. This program is free but call the library and let us know you'll be joining us! The Chicago Ridge Public Library, 10400 S. Oxford, 708-423-7753.

Village View Newspapers would like to extend congratulations and best wishes for a celebration of Dorothy Hruska from Evergreen Park on her 100th Birthday.

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Shadow Days
Friday, November 5, 2010
Monday, November 8, 2010

Friday Fun Fest
November 12, 2010 ~ 4-7pm

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Sunday, Nov. 14, 2010
9am Mass and 10am-12pm Tours
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Beyond the Ordinary

by Jerry R. Haymaker

The Piano Instructor

I had been attending the American Institute of Piano Technology for over a year and a half. The founder and main instructor was Mr. Donald Nicholson. The school taught the rebuilding, repair and tuning of acoustic pianos.

The location of the school was in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Nicholson carried on the school after doing his main business of piano tuning and repair by setting one day aside during the week for students to attend class and work on piano rebuilding. He had been in the business all his life and was well respected in the profession. Many of his clients were wealthy residents of Beverly Hills and other well-to-do areas around Los Angeles.

The students of the school enjoyed the many entertaining stories he told of working for his clients. He also worked in Hollywood when they had a piano on a movie set or would tune pianos at music recording studios. Apparently the studios felt that when they had a famous artist coming in to do a recording it would look good if the piano tuner was just leaving when they showed up. This meant that he would be tuning the same piano one week after the next even though it didn't need tuning for six months.

One of his clients was the famous musician, Liberachi. As part of his service to him, he would be flown to Las Vegas to tune his piano before he went on to perform.

I never did tell Mr. Nicholson about my premonitions and while I was attending the school I had a premonition about him. The premonition was that he was going to pass away due to natural causes and that the time would coincide with the time that I left the school.

It was several months later that circumstances with my job culminated with my decision to leave the area and stop my attendance at the school. I informed Dennis about my decision. I suppose he had seen many students come and go so it was normal to him. I wanted to tell Dennis about my premonition but was reluctant because I didn't think there was anything he could do about it. So on the last day of class I told him good-by.

Many people might have said they would stop in to see him if they were in the area but I knew he would not be there so I didn't. I had my tool box I was going to pick up the next day and made arrangements to meet a school board member at the school. When I arrived the next day I was informed that Mr. Nicholson had passed away the night before in his sleep.

I still don't know if I did the right thing by not saying anything to Dennis. Maybe he could have called his kids one last time or something. He probably would not have believed me anyway. He had told us that all the old piano instructors around the country were passing away from old age and the knowledge they had not passed on was going with them. There were only about five schools in the whole country teaching this when he passed away.

The demand for this education has been greatly diminished by the use of electronic pianos these days. I am still glad that I had the chance to study this vanishing art under such a qualified instructor

American Legion Post No. 854 is having a Spaghetti Dinner

The American Legion Auxiliary of Evergreen Park Post #854 will host a Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle on Friday, November 5, 2010 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the American Legion Hall located at 9701 S. Kedzie Ave. in Evergreen Park . Tickets for adults are $7.00 at the door or $6.00 in advance at the Post Bar. Tickets are $3.00 for children under 12, and children under 5 are free.

Cub Scout Pack 383 and Brownie Troop # 60093 Lends a Hand to Orland Township

On October 5, 2010, 20 members the Orland Stars Brownie Troop #60093 and their leaders visited the Orland Township Food Pantry to deliver food they had collected. The girls also stayed and stocked the shelves while asking questions about how the Food Pantry works and who the food goes towards.

The Township also welcomed Orland Park Cub Scout Pack 383 to the monthly board meeting, held October 19, 2010 in the Orland Township Boardroom.

Working toward a badge goal, Pack 383 delivered donated food, consisting of holiday staples, such as mashed potatoes and stuffing.

During Pack 383's attendance at the board meeting, the boys were given the opportunity to play "Stump the Supervisor" with Supervisor Paul O'Grady, in order to learn more about township government.

"It's encouraging to see Township youth develop-ing into active citizens," said Supervisor O'Grady. "These kids are already exhibiting tremendous character-building skills."

Once again, the Orland Township Food Pantry would like to thank Cub Scout Pack 383 and Brownie Troop #60093 for their service to the community and wish them luck in all future endeavors.

Orland Park Again Sponsors Christmas House Decorating Contest

Residents of the Village of Orland Park will again be recognized for exceptional outdoor holiday decorations.

Participation in the contest is free and open to residents of single family homes within the corporate limits of the Village of Orland Park . Completed entry forms must be received at the Village Hall by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 1, 2010. The five competition categories, including one changed from previous years, include best religious display, most nostalgic, Clark Griswold and Charlie Browniest. New this year is the best entry way/door category, replacing the previous best theme category. The Charlie Browniest Award is for any building on the resident's property other than the family home. "Participants can decorate their kids' play sets, the shed, doghouse or any structure that is not connected to the main house," Fenton explained. "This category calls to mind Snoopy's doghouse in the Peanuts' Christmas cartoons," she added. Judging will take place the weekend of Friday, December 10. "Everyone should be sure that their lights are on that weekend," Fenton said. Winners will be honored at a Village Board meeting in early 2011. Call the Village Hall for entry forms 708-403-6140.

Seven Brides for Seven Brothers on stage at the Drury Lane Theare Oakbrook Terrace

A sweeping, delightfully funny love story, SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS is based on the Academy Award-winning 1954 MGM film of the same name.

Kyle DeSantis, Producer; Drew DeSantis, Producer; Jason Van Leute, Producer;and William Osetek, Artistic Director do an excellent job with this Tony winner production.

This is definitely a show stopper, it runs through December 19, some dates may be sold out, so please get your tickets now to see one of Drury Lane Oakbrook's best productions.

The performance schedule is as follows: Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. ($31), Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. ($31) and 8 p.m. ($38), Fridays at 8:30 p.m. ($45), Saturdays at 5 p.m. ($45) and 8:30 p.m. ($45) and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. ($45) and 6 p.m. ($40). Lunch and dinner theater packages range from $45.75 to $68 depending on the day of the week. Student tickets start as low as $19 and Senior Citizen tickets start as low as $27 for matinees and $41.75 for a matinee luncheon package. For reservations, call the Drury Lane Theatre box office at 630.530.0111, call TicketMaster at 800.745.3000, or visit www.drurylaneoakbrook.com.

Children's Program A Christmas Carol at the Drury Lane Theatre

Because it's such a big sell out every year, the decision to publicize this performance early is for the youngsters, and the not so young, to have the opportunity to see it.

A Christmas Carol, the annual Christmas traditional entertainment can be seen from November 18 through December 18, at the Drury Lane in Oakbrook.

The Drury Lane offers breakfast or dinner with Santa Claus on select performance dates, with a festive buffet style menu.

Regular performances are at 10:00 a.m. Certain performances at 12 Noon and 1 p.m. are scheduled.

For reservations and the performance schedule phone 630-530-0111 or visit ticketmaster.com or www.drurylaneoakbrook.com

The Story of the Nutcracker in Munster

Another play for the young audience is at the Theatre at the Center in Munster. The Story of the Nutcracker is a live musical play version of the traditional holiday favorite. In this play, Marie falls asleep and when she awakes she find the Nutcracker has come to life along with toys, Clara the doll, and soldiers.

A special lunch for only $4 per person will include an all beef hot dog, potato chips, fruit roll up, cookies and an orange drink. The price is in addition to the ticket price.

Please contact the theatre regarding the regular ticket prices. Theatre at the Center is located 1040 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana. The box office number is 219-836-3255.

All performances are one hour. Group performances are November 29-30, December 1-3, 6-10, 13 at 9:30 a.m. and 11:15 am. The public performances will be on December 11 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Group prices are $6.50 per student, adult tickets are $8 and groups of 100 or more students are only $5.50 per student and $8 per adult.

For more information on Theatre at the Center, visit www.TheatreAtTheCenter.com

Wendy and Peter Flying

Peter Pan at Lookingglass Theatre

The World Premiere of Peter Pan (A Play) newly adapted by Amanda Delnert from the books by J.M.Barrie and directed by Amanda Delnert. The production runs until December 12, 2010 at Lookingglass Theatre located inside Chicago's historic Water Tower Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave. at Pearson.

It's difficult singling out someone, but in this case Ryan Nunn was so outstanding as Peter Pan, that you just couldn't help yourself to fly up with him. He is dynamic, articulate, and convincing as as actor. Nice to know that he is a Northwestern University Student. We wish him well in his acting future. Ticket prices for this play runs between $30 - $62. You can buy online at www.lookingglasstheatre.org or by phone at 312-337-0665. You can also try Hottix for this one!

Direct from Havana Cuba at the Auditorium

The Auditorium Theatre at Roosevelt University presents many outstanding groups that come into Chicago from many countries throughout the world.

The all female company Lizt Alfonso Dance Cuba was direct from Havana through the efforts of AFRU Executive Director Batterson and donors.

Coming January 15 and 16, 2011, three Chicago based Soloists, Tenor Rodrick Dixon, Soprano Alfreda Burke, and Alto Karen Marie Richardson will sing Jazz and Gospel, all American reinvention of Handel's "Messiah". Tickets at ticketmaster.com/auditorium or box office

The Goodman Theatre has another hit Seagull

by Annette Dixon

Of course, you must say, how could you go wrong with a Anton Chekhov's work? With a mixture of Chekhov and Falls, you have success.

Director Robert Falls and actors Mary Beth Fisher and Francis Guinan talk about the process of bringing Anton Chekhov's The Seagull to Goodman Theatre at a special discussion on Sunday, November 7 at 6:30 p.m. following the matinee performance.

When famed actress Arkadina and her young lover visits her family's estate, they become ensnared in a tragi-comic tangle of romance, intrigue and unrequited love. As Arkadina's son, Konstantin, struggles with the complexities of love and life he masks his angst by creating a play performed by Nina, with whom he is in love, but who does not share his feeling. Through passion and art, The Seagull uncovers the raw emotions of a family struggling to find itself.

Ticket are on sale by calling 312-443-3800.

Fulcrumpoint

Fulcrum Point New Music Project, the city's leader in new art music and inventive collaborations between classical music and popular culture, officially launches its 2010-2011 season with the bold and brassy "Motown Metal concern, inspired by the sounds of both Motown and Led Zeppelin. This is what took place on October 27, 2010. It was fantastic at the Harris Theatre.

Next on the scene will be Holding Fast with Jacob TV: New Art Music with video! It will take place on Friday, November 5, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. It will be held at the Claudia Cassidy Theater, Chicago Cultural Center at 77 East Randolph Street, second floor, in Chicago. This is a free event featuring new music from award-winning composers performed with outrageous short videos and exquisite images in collaboration with the Chicago Cultural Center.

Please stay after the concert for a discussion with composer in residence Mischa Zupko. Tell us what you think

For more info: www.fulcrumpoint.org.

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Craft & Vendor Bazaar
South Side Baptist School
5220 W. 105 Street
Oak Lawn, IL.
Friday, Nov. 5, 2010
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

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Call for details 312-624-8996, ask for Linda.

Annual Holiday Craft Bazaar
Hickory Hills Presbyterian Church
8426 W. 95th St.
Sat. Nov. 6, 2010
9am - 3pm
• Bake Sale • Raffles • Lunch

24th Annual Fall Craft Fair
Trinity Lutheran Church
9701 Brandt Ave
Oak Lawn, IL.
Sat. Nov. 13, 2010
9am to 3pm.
708-422-0193

The Friends of Acorn Library
Will be holding their 2nd Annual
Holiday Craft Fair
Saturday, November 13, 2010
9 A.M. to 3 P.M.
Candles, Jewelry, Photography, Home Decor, Doll Clothes, and much more!
We have a wide selection of items to choose from. Start your holiday shopping now!
15624 S. Central Avenue • Oak Forest, IL
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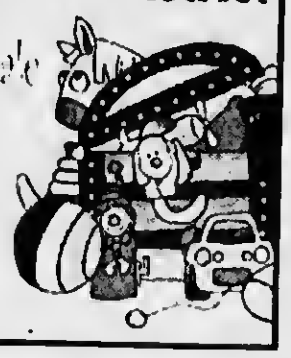

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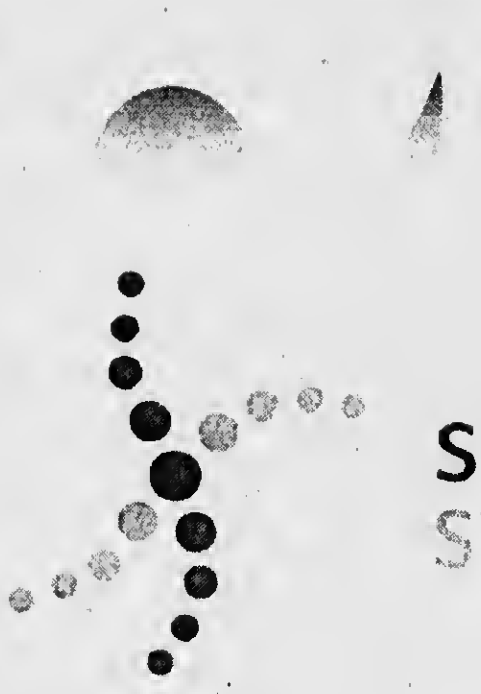

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Featuring:
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Village View

We serve our community with good news!

FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 21 | November 2, 2010

This is an artist rendition of what the new Tinley Park 80th Avenue Metra Station will look like when completed in 2012. The project will include a $2 million pedestrian underpass. Zeorp of Romeoville, Illinois was awarded a $10 million dollar contract to build the station at the 10-26-10 Tinley Park Village Board Meeting.

Tinley Park Awards Ten Million Dollar Contract To Build 80th Avenue Train Station with Caveats.

by Ronald Ayers

The Tinley Park Village Board awarded a 10 million dollar contract to construct its 80th Avenue Metra Station during its October 26, 2010 board meeting held in village hall 16250 Oak Park Avenue. Zeorp Services of Romeoville, Illinois, one of nine bidders on the project submitted the lowest bid at $8.1 million dollars. The contract includes $2,000,000 for the construction of a pedestrian underpass. $20,000 was deducted for the use of stamped, painted asphalt rather than pavers on the station platform. $25,000 was deducted for the use of Taylor Clay Products for the face brick bringing the total contact awarded Zeorp to $10,055,00. "The village has a double "A" bond rating." Said village President Edward J. Zabrocki after the board had unanimously approved the contract. "Without it, we couldn't do projects like the 80th street station." Awarding of the ZEORP contract comes with some caveats associated with it. On September 28, 2010 Members of the Tinley Park Finance and Economic Development Committee held a meeting in the Vogt Conference room located in village hall.

At issue was whether the committee should advise the village board to award a contract to Zeorp Services. Trustee Gregory J. Hannon, chairman of the Planning and Transportation committee had reservations about: · Zeorp not having an extensive resume with doing big projects. "This will be Zeorps first crack at Metra work." said Hannon . · Whether the village could instre that funds paid to Zeorp for the project could be set aside for the 80th Avenue Metra project only, and not used by Zeorp to pay workers on other projects. Project Management Advisors, Inc (PMA)—consultants for Tinley Park, conducted a review of Zeorp. The purpose of the review was to determine if Zeorp Services "Low Bid" met the criteria in the bid documents for the village to make an award. According to PMA's findings outlined in the Executive Summary of its "Evaluation of Apparent Low Bidder—Zeorp Services Company report dated September 17, 2010.

1. "As a company, Zeorp does not have any direct experience on similar projects involving light rail or rail of any kind."

2. "We recommend that Zeorp provide the names of its subcontractors in the following categories prior to the award of the contract: Shoring, Excavation, Site Utilities, Concrete and Pre-Cast Concrete. If the subs in these key trades can't be identified, or don't have adequate experience, it would be our opinion that Zeorp does not have the appropriate experience to perform the work."

3. We've reviewed the financial statement from December 31, 2009 and June 3, 2010. "Our conclusion is that it appears that Zeorp Services is thinly capitalized.

The company does have an untapped $500,000 line of credit with Citibank to help offset potential cash flow shortfalls from operations. The company's finances may be adequate for the project as long as payments are made on a current basis and it does not experience significant cash problems from other projects.

PMA felt that Zeorp "is capable" of performing the 80th Avenue train station work but not without the assistance of some key elements: "Zeorp's capability and experience as a company is not deep. It's capability and experience lies within the individuals, and mostly due to their experience while employed elsewhere.

Zeorp's financial strength for taking on a project of this magnitude is likewise not deep." In order for the 80th Street Metra Station project to be successful Project Management Advisors (PMA) recommended that the following minimum requirements be met: Zeorp's inclusion of qualified subcontractors for Shoring, Excavation, Site Utilities and Pre-Cast Concrete. · Zeorp's continued receipt of timely payments on other projects, and receipt of timely payments on this project. · Zeorp not incur other external financial hardships or financial downturns, including the repayment of a $701,000 loan.

In other matters: The board adopted resolution 2010-R-048 authorizing Execution of an operation and maintenance agreement with Metra and a fourth amendment to a commuter station improvement funding agreement with Metra relative to the 80th Avenue Commuter Station Facility.

According to Trustee Bettenhausen who read the resolution into the public record: "This resolution is the fourth amendment to the original funding agreement.

The prior agreement provided funds from U.S. Representative Judy Biggert (R-IL-13) for the engineering and design of the new station. This amendment provides $5.4 million for construction of a new station, of which $1.585 million will be set aside for Metra labor on the project." Trustee Bettenhausen said that in addition the funding agreement will provide $850,000 towards construction of a pedestrian underpass. "Of this total, $400,000 will be set aside for Metra Labor." Said Bettenhausen. According to Bettehausen any of the funds set aside for Metra labor that are not used will be available to the Village to offset the cost of construction.

"Our relationship with Metra is fantastic," said board President Zabrocki. Resolution 2010-R-048 also authorizes an Operations and Management (O&M) agreement for the station and surrounding area. Metra will be responsible for the platform right-of-way and the ticket agents office. The village will be the owner of the building and will be responsible for its maintenance, as well as the station plaza steps, pedestrian underpass and surrounding area.

Orland Township collects for Manteno Vets

Both residents and Township organizations, such as Morgan Stanley, Smith Barney, James B. Carroll and Associates, Walmart and Orland Fire Protection District, made generous donations to Manteno. All items will be delivered to the Veterans' Home in Manteno.

According to Supervisor Paul O'Grady, the Township has once again delivered, after being called upon. "The generous showing during Operation Care to Remember is greatly appreciated but not at all surprising." Supervisor Paul O'Grady said.

"Orland Township residents are constantly stepping up to support deserving causes, and supporting our veterans is the right thing to do."

The Manteno Veterans' Home opened in 1986 and resides on 122 acres. It consists of five major nursing care units and two ancillary service and support buildings. The institution can house up to 340 eligible veterans, who are met with skilled care in addition to Alzheimer Unit programs and services.

Make a Difference Day is an annual event that was created to promote community service and help to others. For information on additional Orland Township programs and services, please call (708)-403-4222 or visit www.orlandtwp.org.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 21 | November 2, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Worth holds Home Rule town hall meeting

by Matt Mayer

The Village of Worth held a Town Hall meeting on Oct. 19 at the Worth Junior high School Activity Center prior to the regular Board of Trustees meeting. This was the third and final meeting in the long effort to inform residents of the benefits of the village becoming a home rule community. Worth officials fervently agree that the only way to save the village financially is by allowing the village to seek alternate sources of revenue. Mayor Randy Keller said, "The village is broke. Without Home Rule the village must depend on the county to funnel the money to the village which they receive from the State, which is also broke."

Keller also told some 200 residents in attendance, "On Nov 2 you will be asked to make a very important decision - Do you want the Village of Worth to become a Home Rule community? When asked by a resident what would happen if the Home Rule referendum fails, Keller said, "I would rather not think about that because that would mean more cuts in service personnel. Again that's why Home Rule is so critical so as the village may seek other sources of revenue along with the ability to enact certain ordinances. Most of all we will not be dependent on the State."

One such ordinance the village wants to implement is a crime free housing ordinance - Deputy Police Chief Dave De Marco from the City of Oak Forest outlined the crime free multiunit residential house rental ordinance that Oak Forest enacted after a substantial increase in crime in 2005.

This ordinance contains verbiage describing how property owners can keep their property crime free and safe and also gives them the power to evict tenants who have committed a crime. Anyone who owns a multiunit residential property as well as anyone who rents must be part of the program. The owners have to be licensed and anyone who rents an apartment or home must sign a lease addendum. The addendum states that the tenant will be evicted if anyone that lives with them or their guests commits a crime. This is a partnership between the owners and the police. "We have evicted some 50 residents that committed criminal acts." De Marco said.

Keller also said there is a rumor that the village is not in any financial trouble. We have spent three months preparing for a million dollar loan. We laid off two police officers and reduced the hours of a third officer; we have laid off one public works employee and cut the hours of a second employee. We have implemented nineteen furlough days with our clerical union and department heads, and also cut the salaries of the village board and department heads by 10 percent.

Keller also said, "You would think that these measures would dispel the rumors but they still continue. Everyone has a right to their own opinion and this board respects that - however the rumors against home rule are very weak. When we asked what measures would be needed to raise the needed $600,000, the answers we received were raise our property tax, lay off more employees and, believe it or not, a bake sale."

"Do you believe our residents would approve a referendum for a 34 percent property tax increase that's what would be needed? Home Rule has helped over 200 communities just like Worth and in the last thirty years not one of those communities have had their residents vote to go back to the way they were," Keller said.

The village auditor John Williams from Burns and Associates discussed the $600,000 financial deficit and said the village needs to implement a plan, that being Home Rule. Resident Mary Werner challenged Williams in regards to the financial deficit and said the village received an increase in the tax levy, an extra $275,000 plus the $479,000 for the golf course.

Village attorney Burt Odelson interceded and said the village did not receive a levy. We have received $15,000 more than our 2009 levy that will be paid whenever the county decides. If you take out the pension plan that we need to fund from that $15,000, our operation taxes would be over $4,000 less than they were last year. Another advantage with Home Rule is that the village's bond rating will go up. This will enable us to finance at a much cheaper rate - not only would we be able to save money on the bonds for the road construction but we could look to refinance the bonds we already have at a lower interest rate to take that interest and keep it here in Worth.

Home rule would allow the village to implement a 3-cent a gallon municipal gasoline tax that would be used to improve the deteriorating infrastructure such as streets, etc.

Other Cook County municipalities that have a Home Rule referendum on the ballot include Blue Island, Franklin Park and Northfield.

Palos Park approves upgrade to water booster station

by Matt Mayer

The city council approved a public works' request at a recent Palos Park City Council meeting for an upgrade to the Scada system at the West Water Booster Station for $16,485.00. This upgrade will allow remote access to the controls. Currently a public works employee must go to the station on a daily basis to ensure proper operation of the system. The department of public works estimates approximately 300 man hours per year is required to check on the system - this equates to an annual salary cost of $9,000.00.

Other highlights: The City Council approved a request from Palos Chief Miller to replace 15 portable radios for $13,977.75 with the funding being secured through the police department asset forfeiture fund. The Federal Communication Commission (FCC) has mandated that all public safety radios be migrated from the current broad banded radio systems to a narrow banded radio system. Public safety users such as the police department need to ensure that the radios are in compliance with the mandate.

A purchase agreement between the village and N. Harris Computer Corporation for $4,050.00 for the purchase and installation of software was approved as well as a purchase of a cable modem and services from WOW! Company for a term of 36 months, with a monthly charge of $137.50.

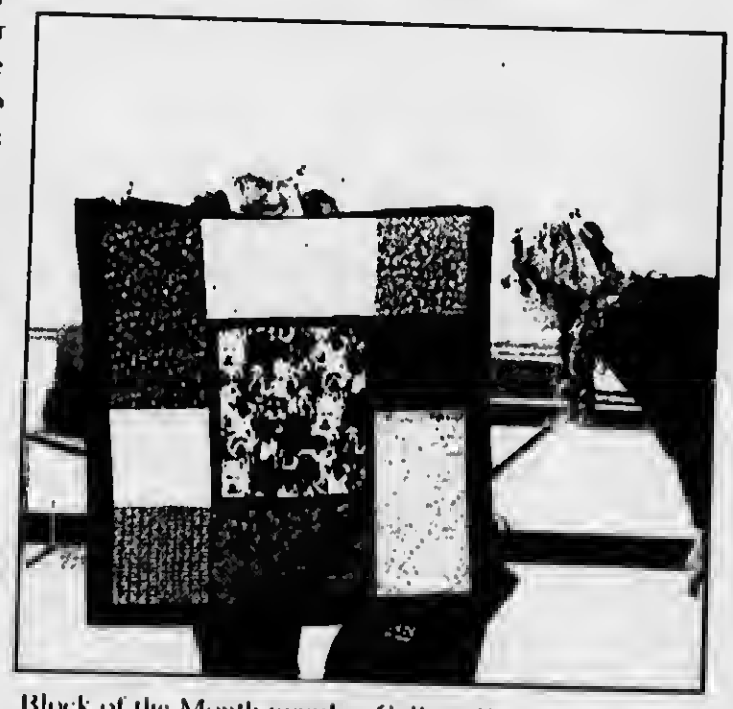
This expenditure is for the Kaptur Administration Center, the Pumping Center and the Public Works garage. An Intergovernmental agreement for the provision of environmental health inspectional service with the Cook County Department of Public Health from December 1, 2010 to November 30, 2011 was also approved.

Marrs-Meyers Post 991 in Worth holds Thanksgiving Dinner

Thanksgiving Dinner Saturday, Nov. 13th 2010 12 noon-6pm $10 per adult at door. Early Bird Tickets available now $8 (must be purchase before Thursday Nov 11th for discount) Early Bird Tickets available at our Public Bar (ask bartender) Open 12 noon.

Children at door on day of event November 13th $4 under 12

No doggie bags please Marrs-Meyer American Legion Post 991 11001 S Depot - Worth IL (708)448 7006



Block of the Month member Colleen Dembowski shows her Panel Quilt, as Assistant Library Director Kathryn Sofianos looks on.

Chicago Ridge Public Library's quilting club made Quilts for Kids

The Chicago Ridge Public Library's quilting club, Block of the Month, made 35 blankets for a Midwest chapter of Quilts for Kids, a nonprofit that provides quilts to abused children and children who suffer from serious illness.

If you would like more information about the Block of the Month program and the charities it supports please contact the library's adult services staff at 708-423-7753.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Volume 4 | Number 21 | November 2, 2010

Crestwood accepts Treasurer's Annual Report

By Ronald Ayers

The Crestwood Village Board accepted the Treasurer's Annual Report presented during its regular board meeting held at the Crestwood Civic Center , 14025 So Kostner October 21, 2010.

The annual financial report covers a period from fiscal year beginning May 1, 2009, and ending April 20, 2010.

Trustee Victor Hirsch, a member of the Finance Committee read the report. Hirsch said that in the villages General Fund:

· The General Corporate Checking account had a beginning balance of $453,097.29. Receipts were $727,745.36. $732,356.93 in disbursements were approved. Corporate Checking ending balance was $448,485.82.

· Motor Fuel Tax Fund (MFT) account had a beginning balance of $104,135.43. Receipts were $23,532.91 $121,970.65 in disbursements were approved. MFT ending balance was $5,797.69.

· State Income Tax- First Suburban account had a beginning balance of $124,442.72. Receipts were $46,657.97. $400,857.54 in disbursements were approved. Ending balance in this account was $220,242.15.

· State Income Tax - 1st Midwest account had a beginning balance of $0.00. Receipts were $184,329.52. $0.00 disbursements were approved.

Ending balance in this account was $184,329.52.

· Recreation Wellness – Checking had a beginning balance of $34,893.30. Receipts were $52,142.60. Approved disbursements were $43,978.36. Ending balance in this account was $43,057.54.

· Community Block Grant account had a beginning balance of $15,395.76. Receipts were $0.00 $0.00 disbursements were approved. Ending balance in this account was $15,395.76.

· Crestwood Baseball Stadium account had a beginning balance of $127,216.16. Receipts were $63,937.64. Approved disbursements were $6,620.99. Ending balance in this account was $184,532.81.

Trustee Hirsch reported that in the Village's water fund.

· Water & Sewer Funds Checking had a beginning balance of $237,715.13. Receipts were $141,698.08. Approved disbursements were $188,818.67. Ending balance in this account was $190,594.54.

In other matters:

Trustee William Wagner delivered the Public Works Department Report. Among the nineteen (19) items listed in the report, Wagner said that the public Works Department

· Repaired and maintained all Police, Fire and Public Work vehicles.

· Removed debris from storm inlets and outfalls. Collected six trash bags and one dump truck load of branches.

· Trimmed trees on Long Ave., 137th – 139th Streets.

Trustee Wagner also delivered the Police Committee Report concerning police activity for September, 2010. Wagner reported that there were:

·Twelve (12) crimes against persons

·Fifteen (15) crimes against property

·Forty one (411) Motor vehicle accidents.

·Eight hundred and twenty eight (828) Service calls

·Twenty thousand two hundred seventy three (20,273) miles driven by squads and jeeps.

Trustee James Fowler delivered a report from the Water Department. Among the twelve (12 items reported, the Water Department performed:

· Four (4) final readings

· Checked sanitary main lines.

Located thirty eight (38) requests for village utilities per J.U.L.I.E. dig notices.

Mayor Robert Stranczek asked for and received unanimous approval from the board to accept the bonds and oaths of ten (10) people who are expected to become employees of the village.

Alsip Passes Cluster of Ordinances Authorizing Eighteen Million Dollar Pulaski-Crawford Ave. TIF

By Ronald Ayers

The Village of Alsip passed a cluster of ordinances during its board meeting October 18, 2010 held at village hall 4500 west 123rd street .

Crestwood resident Harry Burke (R1) voted early . The next opportunity to vote will be November 2, at Alsip Village Hall 4500 W. 123rd St. Lindsey Coleman (L1) is the Cook County election judge manning the polling station. (Photo by Ronald Ayers)

The ordinances create a Tax Increment Finance District (TIF) that will finance the village's Pulaski-Crawford Avenue Redevelopment Project at an estimated cost of $18 Million dollars.

Ordinance 2010-101 designates the Pulaski road corridor TIF redevelopment project area pursuant to the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act.

·Ordinance 2010-102 approves a tax increment redevelopment plan and redevelopment project for the Pulaski Road Corridor TIF Redevelopment project area.

·Ordinance 2010-103 adopts tax increment allocation financing for the Pulaski Road Corridor TIF project area.

·Ordinance 2010-104 approves an intergovernmental agreement concerning Alsip's Pulaski Road Corridor TIF.

According to the Pulaski Road Corridor TIF Redevelopment Plan Area (RPA/TIF) document prepared by Kane, McKenna and Associates for Alsip, the TIF will encompass an area thirty six (36) acres in size bounded by 115th avenue on the north and 123rd street on the south. It will include one hundred and nine (109) tax parcels.

The area contains sixty three (63) buildings, of which forty-four (44), or 70 percent are thirty-five (35) years or older. Thirteen (13) of the buildings contain approximately fifty-seven (57) residential units. According to the RPA document a housing impact study will not be required:

"The Village does not plan to dislocate ten or more inhabited residential units as part of this plan."

Alsip hopes to realize its objective of encouraging private investment that will expand the retail tax base, improve real estate values, and create jobs within the TIF area.

The eighteen million dollar cost of the TIF will fund such things as:

· Land Acquisition

·Demolition and Site Preparation

· Utility Improvements

· Public Facilities

· Job Training

TIFS are tools units of local government use to create future gains in taxes to finance current improvements. The future gains in taxes over a period of years can be "monetized" when a local government obtains loans or issues bonds based on the future appreciation of tax valuation within a TIF.

According to Alsip 's TIF development document, the estimated equalized assessed valuation (EAV) for the 2008 property within the TIF is approximately $23,736,288.

Upon the completion of the anticipated private development of the TIF over a period of twenty-three (23) years the estimated EAV of the property within the TIF will be approximately $49.6 million dollars. The increased tax revenues over twenty three (23) years are the "tax increment"

The Pulaski Road Corridor TIF Redevel-opment Plan states that:

"Tax increment revenues which will be used to pay debt service on the municipal obligations to directly pay redevelopment cost shall be retired not more than twenty (23) years from the date of adoption of the ordinance approving the Redevelopment Project (TIF) area."

· The board approved accounts payable through October 18, 2010 of $1,111,337.59.

·Trustee John R. Shapiro reported that the Building Department had issued 146 permits, and collected $16,311.45 in payments for September.

· Accepted the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Motor Fuel Tax allotment for September in the amount of $47,486.65

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 10 | November 16, 2010

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Village of Justice observes 3D prevention month

by Julie Schabes

December is National Drugs, Drinking, and Driving Prevention Month, so Justice is proclaiming December 7th "3D Prevention Day". According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), every day approximately 36 people die and 700 more are injured in motor vehicle crashes involving an alcohol-impaired driver.

The CDC also reports that in 2006, nearly one-third of all traffic-related deaths in the United States occurred in alcohol related crashes. Everyone has a responsibility in preventing drunk or drugged driving. While you're doing your part to ensure our roads are safe this month, law enforcement personnel will be doing the same. Impaired drivers don't only risk life and injury, they also take a chance of being arrested.

Many locals were not thrilled about the proposed sign at 1294 in the parking lot of 7946 87th St. with concerns of how it would look. So for residents who didn't want that billboard, you'll be happy about this. Cardinal Signs withdrew their request for the billboard.

Christmas is already next month! Join your local residents at the library by making a festive holiday craft. "Make a Christmas Swag" is Saturday November 6th 1 PM. Also there's a session called "Make A Contemporary Christmas Tree With An Old-fashioned Theme" being held on Saturday November 27th 1 PM. Both of these sessions fill up quickly and are limited to 10 adults. Register ASAP. Please bring scissors and wire cutters. (708)496-1790.

At the Board of Trustees Meeting, Mayor Kris Wasowicz was appointed a temporary representative for the Willow Springs Water Commission.

Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to create seasonal greeting cards, labels, and more. Don't let your lack of experience intimate you. "Printmaster Class 1" is a chance to learn hands-on in a comfortable environment.

For any questions or to register, please contact Mary Ann Hotzfield at the District Office (708)496-8700. Class size is limited to 20. Wilkins School Computer Lab: 80th St & 82nd Ave. Enter through the cafeteria doors off of rear parking lot.

Best Wishes for a Healthy and Happy Thanksgiving and remembering what brought us to this wonderful country!
We celebrate with you!
Village View Newspapers

(Left to Right) Korean War Veterans Pat Quinn (POW) Senator Louis S. Viverito and Mayor Klein placed wreath to honor fallen soldiers

Burbank Salutes Korean War Veterans

by Julie Schabes

Since this year is the 60th Anniversary of the Korean War, Burbank's 14th Annual Veterans Day Program was dedicated to those who served in the Korean War Effort.

At the program, Korean War Veterans Senator Louis S. Viverito and Pat Quinn (P.O.W.) participated by placing a wreath to honor the fallen solders at the Veterans Memorial Park on State Road. As we faced east to the melody of Taps, it was impossible to not feel immense gratitude for our freedom such brave sacrifices have ensured us.

The Reavis High School Band, under the direction of Andy Davis, serenaded us with patriotic tunes. Immediately following the services at Memorial Park, all were welcomed to the Prairie Trails Public Library for coffee, punch, and cake.

Uncle Sam's attendance was a bright surprise and reminder that its a celebration for our nation's pride as well. Live music by the talented duo "Afterglow" also lifted spirits after the emotional tribute at the monument.

Burbank Village Board meeting

At the City of Burbank's City Council Meeting, after 15 long years without a change in fees, an ordinance was approved to increase fees for vending machines and regulatory certificates. Only one displeased owner of machines showed up to the meeting to complain. Seems perhaps the other owners realized they were lucky it is been this long?

In other City business, another motion was approved as well. This ordinance authorizes a variation to allow the construction of a 6 foot front/side yard fence for the property at 7941 S. Mayfield. Residents might want to move raking to the top of their "Honey-Do" lists. Free "Yard Waste Only" stickers are available at the Clerk's Office. Please be advised that yard waste pick-up ends on November 30th.

Evergreen Park approves business license amendments

by Matt Mayer

The Nov. 1, Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting commenced with Mayor James Sexton announcing the loss of long time resident, Catherine "Toodles" Aparo.

"This wonderful woman was the mother of our village clerk Kathy Aparo. She passed away on Oct 26 and was buried out of St. Bernadette Church. Kathy also lost her father, Gus, about 5 months ago," Sexton said.

He said it's been a hectic time for the Aparo family. Sexton then asked for a moment of silence and also asked to keep Kathy and her family in their prayers. "It would be much appreciated," Sexton said.

The village board approved an ordinance changing the verbiage of a chapter regarding license taxation and miscellaneous business regulations, as well as an article pertaining to business regulation certificates and permits. A section added to the village municipal code pertaining to fines and debts owed to the village is as follows:

a) No person/entity owning the village any fine or debt shall be granted a business regulation certificate and permit, or the same is renewed, until the fine or debt is satisfied.

b) No business license certificates and permits will be granted or renewed if the property at which the business activities are to be conducted has a memorandum of judgment recorded against it in favor of the village and the judgment has yet to be satisfied.

c) An outstanding fine, debt or judgment shall be cause for the suspension and/or revocation of any current business regulation certificate and permit issued by the village.

The village's annual coat drive typically provides hundreds of needy people with outerwear. However this year's collection has been very low. Jim Feltz director of the youth commission said, "I only have 20 coats - we usually have 100 or so". Feltz has been overseeing the drive for the past nine years and said this could suggest the economy may be causing people to keep their coats and jackets another year rather than donate them.

Clean coats, jackets and sweaters may be dropped off at the Community Center at 3450 W. 97th St. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until the end of November. The outerwear will be brought to the Worth Township building and will be distributed to the needy.

Donations to the village food pantry for their "Stack the Pantry" program may also be dropped off at the Community Center. The pantry is in need of canned and dried goods.

Anyone who wishes to make a larger donation may call 422-8776 prior to arriving. The pantry serves village residents as well as surrounding municipalities in emergency situations.

Hickory Hills is foremost tops in recycling

Recycling plastic and cans is an important way to participate in something that reaches further than the individual.

Recycling impacts human life because it saves energy and breathes new life into used plastic and cans. GreenYour, a guide to green living, reports that recycling soda bottles and cans reduces the amount of virgin materials necessary to create new soda bottles and cans and uses less energy as well.

Recycling plastic and cans has never been easier, and doing so can affect life in many positive ways.Read more: http://www.lovestrong.com

Hickory Hills is a Leader In Recycling according to Land And Lakes, no other community in the southwest suburbs comes close to the dedication of Hickory Hills.

Recycling impacts human life because it saves money and breathes new life into what used to be considered trash.

Reports show recycling a 6-pack of aluminum cans saves enough energy to fuel a car for 5 miles. For questions, please contact Land And Lakes Disposal at (708)720-5100.

The engineer estimates the 95th & Roberts Rd turning lane will be closed for one week due to construction.

Mayor Howley reminded us that December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. With all the holiday celebrations, December is an exceptionally risky month. However, we need to be reminded of the importance of driving free from the influence of alcohol and drugs year round. By working together, we can make our Nation's roadways safer for everyone.

At the City Council Meeting, Motion Action Re: Ordinance 10-16 Revised – Automated Traffic Law Enforcement was approved.

In other city business, Motion Action Re: Ordinance 10-18 – Tax Levy was also approved. Commander Jim Casper (of American Legion in Palos Park) has been adopted the Platoon Leader for Boxes For Troops.

The next Boxing Day is Tuesday November 16th at the Community Center in Hickory Hills. Commander Casper will be including DVDs of people helping into the boxes for the troops to view the support and see a few friendly American faces.

Mark Your Calendars:

*Tree Lighting Ceremony shall be November 23rd.

*Upcoming dates Kids Christmas Party is December 12th.

*House Decorating Contest is December 14th.

FOB President Donahue attends hearing for prisoner review board

Mark Donahue, President of the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, Chicago Police Officers and representatives of the F.O.P. traveled by bus to Springfield to attend the En Banc Hearing before the Illinois Prisoner Review Board considering granting or denying parole for the convicted murderer of Police Officer Terrance Loftus on October 12, 1976. President Donahue stated "the full Prisoner Review Board listened to the facts of the case as presented to both of the hearing officers and a summation was made about the case by the State Attorney of Cook County, who spoke at the hearing". Upon completion of the testimony a motion was made to deny parole and was properly seconded and the vote was taken carrying the motion 13 to 2. President Donahue added "a second motion was made and properly seconded to grant a three year set for this matter and the vote was taken granting this motion". He went on to say "may we extend our thanks to the Chicago Police Memorial for their participation". President Donahue concluded. "Chicago Police Officer Terrence E. Loftus, while off duty and in civilian dress and on his way home, observed a gang fight in progress. He immediately stopped his vehicle and attempted to intervene, shots rang out and he fell to the ground fatally wounded".

Blue Island passes ordinances announcing intent to issue 2 Million Dollars in bonds and other debt instruments

by Ronald Ayers

The Blue Island City Council passed an ordinance announcing its intent to issue up to two million dollars in bonds and other debt instruments during its November 9, 2010 meeting held in the City Hall East Annex 2434 W. Vermont Street.

The ordinance was passed to stem the city's cash flow problems resulting from the tardy distribution of real estate taxes from Cook County to the city. Mayor Donald E. Peloquin warned the city council at its October 12, 2010 council meeting that the city's ability to meet its payroll and pay its bills in a timely manner may be in jeopardy due to a delay in Cook County mailing tax bills to residents and units of local government.

The ordinance passed 11-9-2010 authorizes Blue Island to participate in a "Short-Term Loan Program" established by the South Suburban Mayors and Managers (SSM&M) that, "Provides a flexible, low cost option to traditional funding alternatives by utilizing an intercept of Cook County tax revenues."

Mayor Peloquin or his designee is directed by the city council to "enter into agreements necessary to issue Instruments to anticipate the revenues that would be paid to Blue Island by participating in the SSM&M Short Term Loan Program." According to the bond ordinance it is anticipated that Blue Island will have "instruments in the aggregate amount of $2,000,000.00.

The ordinance states that the proceeds of the Instruments will be used for: "Paying working capital needs for the city, and to pay the cost incurred in connection with issuing the instruments." An Ordinance restricting a portion of a certain street for handicapped parking only was passed by the city council. The city has designated a space consisting of twenty (20') feet on the west side of Mozart Street in front of the residence whose common address is 12930 Mozart Street as restricted for handicapped parking only

According to the ordinance the operator of any vehicle violating or failing to comply with the ordinance will be fined, upon conviction, two hundred and fifty dollars (250.00) but not more than three hundred fifty dollars ($350.00) for each offense.

In other matters: A resolution declaring Blue Island "A fair and equal city for immigrants" was passed by the council.

The resolution:

- Affirms Blue Island's strong support for the rights of immigrants and oppose measures that single out individuals for legal scrutiny or enforcement based on their country of origin.

- Directs city employees "not to inquire" into the race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship, or immigrant status of any individual unless required by law.

- Instructs the police department to refrain from racial profiling or using race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship, or immigrant status as a factor in selecting which individual to subject to investigatory activities.

Oak Lawn commences budget process

By
Matt Mayer

Officials at the Nov. 9 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting said that a balanced budget will be presented for 2011. Village Manager Larry Deetjen said this would be the 6th year in which the village presents a balanced budget with no tax increase. This is an accomplishment, which included all department heads, Deetjen said. The new budget will see a reduction in the tax levy however there will be a slight increase in the library budget that doesn't fall under the control of the village board, Deetjen said. Difficult decisions regarding the budget will have to be made together - if possible the village will not lay off any employees while honoring all union contracts, Deetjen said.

The only tax the village increased during the past 6 years was the gas tax -which was implemented to offset the cost of several infrastructure repair projects. A record number of streets were repaved and several alleys were paved. We're hopeful that additional infrastructure projects will be completed next year, Deetjen said.

Officials considered a proposed agreement between the village and Brunswick Zone at 4700 W. 103rd Street in an effort to avert future violent incidents at the bowling alley. Some of the proposed restrictions are less time for alcohol sales, increased security, and shorter hours of operation. This agreement stems from a shooting on July 31 outside the bowling alley following a fight between the gangs inside the building.

Police Chief William Villanova said there have been minor incidents at the bowling alley since the shooting. However Trustee Tom Phelan said that the bowling alley has been a troublesome area for several years and recalls seeing several weekly police reports regarding incidences at the bowing alley and an adjacent night club as early as 2005. "There were serious incidents - these were not nuisance calls." Phelan said.

He recalled a fight that occurred in 2006, which involved four customers, Oak Lawn police and security officers, which resulted in Brunswick Zone agreeing to temporary measures intended to prevent fights. Phelan went on to say that he has received considerable feedback from residents regarding the future of the bowling alley, most favor closing the facility. "It's a nice place but I wouldn't risk one grazed bullet wound for 5,000 bowlers." Phelan said.

Village View Publication, Inc.
312-624-8996
Fax: 708-221-6663
vvnews@sbcglobal.net

Owner Editor Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnews@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

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Make McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade a Family Tradition as the Holiday comes to life on State Street Thursday Morning November 25

The public is invited to celebrate on the historic State Street amidst gigantic airborne balloons, stunning equestrian units, the nation's top marching bands, expertly-choreographed dance troupes and the best in varied cultural entertainment as the 77th McDonald's® Thanksgiving Parade takes place LIVE on State Street in downtown Chicago on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25, from 8 to 11 a.m. (CST) For those not in Chicago – or stuck in the kitchen preparing the big meal – the festivities will be broadcast live for three hours on WGN 9 Chicago and WGN America TV stations.

Stepping off the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade will be a lively performance of "FUNnudrum" presented by Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey. Honorary Grand Marshal, Ronald McDonald®, will lead the parade, and will be joined by other crowd favorites including Chicago's favorite fun-loving bird and parade mascot, Teddy Turkey, Santa Claus, Miss Chicago and Miss Illinois 2010.

Popular film and television actress and Chicago native Jennifer Beals will serve as Grand Marshal in the McDonald's® Thanksgiving Parade. Beals began her acting career after graduating from Francis W. Parker School when she auditioned for "Flashdance," resulting in the role which earned her a Golden Globe nomination and an NAACP Image Award for "Best Actress." Since then she has worked on other projects such as the acclaimed Showtime series, "The L Word," and recently starred alongside Denzel Washington in the 2010 sci-fi action film, "Book of Eli." Beals is currently in Chicago filming a new police drama picked up by FOX called "The Chicago Code."

Expected to top over 100 parade units, new additions to this year's lineup include a wide range of electrifying live performances ranging from the splendor of The Joffrey Ballet's America's #1 "Nutcracker" to the head-turning JASC Tsukasa Taiko Japanese Drummers, who will set the beat of the parade route. Truly offering something for everyone, other entertainers include the daring Yekonnayeko Acrobats from Spain, who combine contortion and comedy with extraordinary acrobatics, as well as the talented Chicago Swordplay Guild members who will battle it out while the experts at Fred Astaire Dance Studio gracefully glide through the parade route.

Each year, the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade includes the top marching bands from all over the country. The parade includes performers and special guests representing every part of the country as well as some international visitors. Whether it's catching the Jesse White Tumblers in action or checking out the sky-high balloons, the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade has something for everyone.

Always a free event, a limited number of VIP Experience packages are available for purchase, and include amenities such as VIP Seats, a light continental breakfast and much more. More information on the VIP Experience is available www.chicagofestivals.org. WGN9Chicago will air the parade live and in high definition from 8 to 11 a.m. (CST) on Thursday, Nov. 25. WGN America will also broadcast the parade nationally, establishing it as one of only three parades in the country to be covered live, in its entirety, on a national television broadcast (along with Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade® and The Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasedena, CA).

Happy Thanksgiving

JANE NOLAN
Palos Township Clerk
10802 South Roberts Rd.
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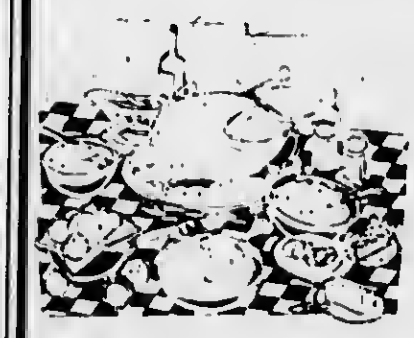

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Private Room
25 - 70 People

Imagine the warm feeling both you and a person with disabilities will experience this year because of your kindness. This is wonderful away to start the holiday season!

Coats needed for winter warmth

The need grows greater for individuals with disabilities who do not have the funds to purchase a warm coat this winter or a family to provide for them.

Melanie Jones, Director of Advancement and Communications at Sertoma Centre, purchases the coats required each year. Ms. Jones stated that " just a few short years ago, I only purchased three coats, the following year twelve, then twenty, now this year the need has grown to twenty nine individuals without a winter coat." Sertoma Centre, Inc. is a not for profit agency that provides services to over 625 individuals with developmental, physical and emotional disabilities, and/or mental illness.

The need is great and time is of the essence. We ask those of you that are willing to please make a financial donation to underwrite any portion of the cost to purchase coats for these individuals.

Imagine the warm feeling both you and a person with disabilities will experience this year because of your kindness. This is a wonderful way to start the holiday season.

If you would like to help, please send your check today to Sertoma Centre, Inc. Foundation, 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803, or contact Melanie Jones, at 708 730 6206 or mjones@sertomacentre.

If you are interested in more information, making a donation, volunteering, or to schedule a tour please contact Melanie Jones, Director of Advancement and Communications at Sertoma Centre, Inc., 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803. Phone: 708 730 6206, email: mjones@sertomacentre.org or visit the website: www.sertomacentre.org

Imagine the warm feeling both you and a person with disabilities will experience this year because of your kindness. This is wonderful away to start the holiday season!

Shop early at Smith Village Pre Christmas Bazaar

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 18, at Smith Village, many vendors will be selling their wares.

There will be baked goods, crafts, Christmas cards, children's books, homemade hand-bags, soaps and magnets, to name a few items for sale. One of them will be Misericordia, also, Bridget Houlihan Kennedy, a Beverly native who wrote "Chicago's South Side Irish Parade".

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presents
Lunch with Santa
Tickets sell out fast! $5 each!
December 4th, 11 am 2 pm
Memorial Park
Call 708 388 6421 for more info
www.blueislandparks.org

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church will present a free
Live Outdoor Nativity Scene
Friday & Saturday, December 10 & 11
6:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. both evenings
on the lawn at Mt. Zion, 104th & Kostner, Oak Lawn
A chance to hear the story of the Birth of the Savior in the midst of a 'Winter Holiday' world.
Kids can pet the animals from The Farm, sing carols & warm up with hot chocolate & cookies!

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Thursday, November 25, 2010
See Ya Soon at Christmas Open House
25th Anniversary Party
Saturday, December 4, 2010
5pm to 9pm
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Orland Township Youth and Family Services Hosts Grief Support Group

On Thursday evenings, beginning December 2, 2010, Orland Township Youth and Family Services is hosting "Forever in My Heart", a support group for individuals dealing with grief due to the loss of a spouse.

The group will meet every Thursday from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Orland Township Youth and Family Services office at 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue. The cost to participate is $10 per session.

Grief is a natural response to loss of a loved one. Each session will provide a supportive and accepting environment which will pave the way for hope during a time of confusion and crisis. For more information, call 708-403-4001.

Saturdays, Dec. 4, 11, 18: 1pm to 6pm
Sundays, Dec. 5, 12, 19: 1pm to 6pm

Embark on a magical train ride! Visit with Santa Claus and his elves at the Toy Workshop and make a toy to take home. Children on Santa's "Good" list will receive a gift and treat.

Music and live entertainment
Admission: $12 per person

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VIKINGS "Where Leadership Begins"

Open House

Thursday, December 2
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 8 • 8:00 a.m.
No. 2 pencils & calculator • $25 Test Fee
To schedule a visit contact the Admissions Office at 708-458-6900 ext. 252 or ext 237

St. Laurence High School 5556 West 77th Street Burbank, Illinois
www.stlaurence.com

Holiday Open House

Sunday,
December 5, 2010

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Chapel Hill Gardens South
Cemetery and Funeral Home
11333 S. Central Avenue
Oak Lawn, Illinois

Special memorial service at 2:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served. Dignity

Operation Sweaters for Vets

Chapel Hill Gardens South is a drop-off point for new or gently used men and women's sweaters for military Veterans in our local VA hospitals and homes. The goal is to provide warm clothing to those in need who have selflessly and proudly serviced their country.

The sweater donation box will be located in the lobby of the funeral home through Sunday, December 5, 2010

Phone Chapel Hill Gardens South (708) 636-1200 for more information.

Your donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Free Juggling Program for Families

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host "See a Juggler, Be a Juggler," a free interactive family program featuring humor, juggling and balancing stunts on Sunday, November 7 from 3–4 p.m. After a juggling performance, Jason Kollum will teach everyone, kids and parents alike, early-juggling and balancing skills. This program is intended for patrons age four and up.

All children under age eight must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturdays, Dec. 4, 11, 18: 1pm to 6pm
Sundays, Dec. 5, 12, 19: 1pm to 6pm

Embark on a magical train ride! Visit with Santa Claus and his elves at the Toy Workshop and make a toy to take home. Children on Santa's "Good" list will receive a gift and treat.

Music and live entertainment
Admission: $12 per person

ILLINOIS RAILWAY MUSEUM
America's Largest Railway Museum
UNION, IL
Directions: Take 190 to Hwy 20 Exit--Follow the Signs

Visit the website www.irm.org to reserve your tickets

Opera Lecture: A Masked Ball

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host a free lecture on the opera "A Masked Ball" at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 7. At this informative session, a member of the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps will explain the plot, give background on the composer, Giuseppe Verdi, and play musical selections. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Oak Lawn Library. View the complete 2010-2011 opera lecture series at www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

"The Write Stuff" for Grades 3 to 5

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., hosts "The Write Stuff," a free monthly after-school program for young writers in third through fifth grade. On Tuesday, November 9 from 4-5 p.m., participants will flex their creative muscles with a series of writing exercises based upon the theme of "He Said, She Said." Advance registration is required at the Youth Services Desk with the child's library card.

Forgiveness: A Gift You Give Yourself

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., will host an enlightening lecture on the power of forgiveness 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 9 at 7 p.m.

Betty Lou Barsley-Marra of the University of Illinois Extension leads a workshop that addresses the importance of forgiveness in the healing process.

Examine your own feelings and experiences with forgiveness and learn strategies to forgive and move on.

View a complete schedule of adult programs at www.oaklawnlibrary.org. For additional information, call 708-422-4990.

Free Blood Pressure Screenings and "Ask the Pharmacist"

The Oak Lawn Community Partnership will offer free blood pressure screenings and "Ask the Pharmacist" consultations from 10 until 11 a.m. Wednesday, November 10 at the Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St.

Participants may bring in their current medications and meet one on one with a pharmacist to discuss dosing, optimization, special instructions, duplication and other important medical concerns.

The Oak Lawn Community Partnership is a cooperative alliance between the Village of Oak Lawn, Advocate Christ Medical Center, service organizations, educators, business leaders and interested community members.

For more information on any of the above programs, call the Oak Lawn Library at 708-422-4990 or email at www.oaklawnlibrary.org

St. Laurence High School

VIKINGS *Where Leadership Begins*

Thursday, December 2
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 8 • 8:00 a.m.
No. 2 pencils & calculator • $25 Test Fee

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Operation Sweaters for Vets

Chapel Hill Gardens South is a drop-off point for new or gently used men and women's sweaters for military Veterans in our local VA hospitals and homes. The goal is to provide warm clothing to those in need who have selflessly and proudly serviced their country.

The sweater donation box will be located in the lobby of the funeral home through Sunday, December 5, 2010

Phone Chapel Hill Gardens South (708) 636-1200 for more information.

Your donation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Stickney Township Office on Aging to host community health and caregiver fair

A variety of health, safety, and caregiver information for the community will be available at the Community Health and Caregiver Fair sponsored by Stickney Township Office on Aging. The health and caregiver fair will be held on Friday, November 19, 2010 from 9:30 to 12:00p.m. at the Louis S. Viverito Senior Center 7745 S. Leamington Ave. Burbank, IL.

Local organizations and businesses will be available to answer questions and distribute information about many health, caregiver and safety topics, including healthy eating, immun-izations, Medicare, senior services, and crime prevention. Some of the different organizations that are participating include Stickney Township Office on Aging, Stickney Public Health District nursing and mental health departments, Burbank Police and Fire Departments, the Cook County Sheriff's Office and the Illinois State Treasurer's Office.

Various screenings will also be offered at the event including blood pressure checks, cholesterol and diabetic screenings, spinal screenings, and body mass index.

Speakers for this year's event include the Make Medicare Work Coalition and the Center for Disability and Elder Law which will feature a workshop on completing power of attorney and living will forms.

For more information about the Community Health and Caregiver Fair, contact Stickney Township Office on Aging at (708)636-8850.

Palos Park hold movie matinee

Families are invited to the Holiday Movie Matinee at the Palos Park Public Library on Sat., Nov. 27th, at 2pm. Join us for a 2010 animated hit featuring the voices of Tom Hanks and Tim Allen. Woody, Buzz and Jessie are back in a story where "No Toy Gets Left Behind." Refreshments will be served. The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park, IL. To register for this program call the library at (708)448-1530 or visit us online at www.palosparklibrary.org.

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Saturday, Dec. 4th & Sunday, Dec. 5th
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Long awaited WICKED to return at the Cadillac Palace Theatre

Long before Dorothy drops in, two other girls meet in the land of Oz. One - born with emerald green skin - is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. WICKED tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good.

Broadway In Chicago is thrilled to announce that the return engagement of WICKED will include the return of two Chicagoan stars, Barbara Robertson and Gene Weygandt. Robertson will join the cast as Madame Morrible for the Chicago run, and Weygandt will begin performances as The Wizard with the tour in Boston before arriving in Chicago. The longest running show in Chicago history makes its triumphant return to the Cadillac Palace Theatre.

WICKED begins performances on December 1, 2010 at the Cadillac Palace Theatre and will run through January 23, 2011. Individual tickets will go on sale this fall and range in price from $30 to $100. A select number of premium seats are also available. Tickets will be available at all Broadway In Chicago Box Offices (24 W. Randolph St., 151 W. Randolph St. and 18 W. Monroe St.), the Broadway In Chicago Ticket Line at (800) 775-2000, all Ticketmaster retail locations (including Hot Tix and select Carson Pirie Scott, Coconuts and Lyric stores), and online at www.BroadwayInChicago.com. For groups of 15 or more, call (312) 977-1710.

Iliad at Red Orchid for the youth with an all girl production

A Red Orchid Theatre continues its 2010-2011 Season with The Iliad, adapted from Robert Fagles' and Ian Strachan's translations of Homer's The Iliad by Ensemble Member Craig Wright. The production, directed by Steve Wilson, will run November 12 – December 19, 2010 at A Red Orchid Theatre, 1531 N. Wells.

Adapted by Craig Wright specifically for our young, all-female cast, this version of The Iliad offers a provocative and playful new spin on Homer's age-old tale of the Trojan War. Vengeance, loyalty, or honor: which is most important? And, in this saga of bloody battles and huge male egos, where exactly do women and children fit

McAuley to present "The Sound of Music"

Tickets are on sale now for Mother McAuley's lively performance of "The Sound of Music." This beloved musical will open on Thursday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m., with additional shows on Friday, November 19 and Saturday November 20 at 7:30 p.m., and on Sunday, November 21 at 3 p.m.

The show will be performed in the McAuley Auditorium, 3737 W. 99th Street, Chicago. Tickets are $10 and may be purchased by calling Theatre Director Pat Haynes at 773-881-6512. There will be a special performance on Wednesday, November 17 at 12:30 p.m. Tickets for this special performance are $5 and do not need to be purchased in advance.

Traces at The Broadway in Chicago Playhouse

To round out the cast, we have Xia Zhengqi who does a solo bit and is astoundingly flexible as they do the tumbling with hoops, Philippe Normand-Jenny who flys through the air with the greatest of ease (he is also a larger man than one is used to seeing do the feats he does) and Mathieu Cloutier who gives new meaning to "pole dancing". There some clever urban bits utilizing a basketball and skate boards, some "hip" music and some marvelous dance steps created by Choreographers/directors Shana Carroll and Gypsy Snider. The energy of this show is absolutely mind-boggling. The intimacy of the "playhouse" brings these performers very close to their audience and in fact there were times that they came into the audience.

The tickets range from $50-$71.50 which will make it hard for this to be a family show. In our current economy, having a family of four spend $200 (plus parking and food) for 90 minutes is a bit high. But wait! Broadway In Chicago, knowing that our economy is not back to normal yet, has RUSH tickets available- 25 per performance at $25 day of performance only and I would look for some special promotions as well. This is a fun show and an experiences that you will savor so check out their website and see what is available.

"Traces" will run until December 19th with performances as follows:

Tuesday-Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 8 p.m. matinees at 2 p.m., Wed., Sat. and Sun.

There will be no performance on Thanksgiving and a special 2 p.m. matinee on Friday, November 26th

You can purchase tickets at any of the Broadway In Chicago box offices., by phone at 800-775-2000, at all Ticketmaster retail locations and www.BroadwayInChicago.com

An abriged review from Alan Bresloff

Photo credit: Bob Nick.

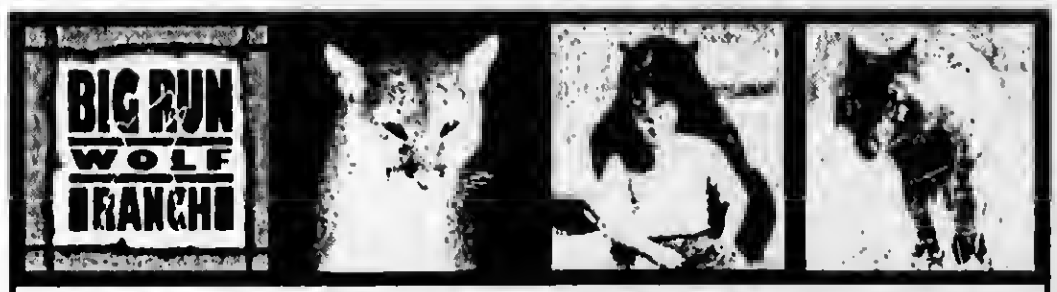
Back row: Sofia Mangiano (11), Maeve Swanberg (12), Cameron Enright (12), Leslie Bahena (13), India Hobbs (11), Imani Moss (11)

Front row: Kaitlin Patterson (11), Monica Maxey (10), Rabiliah Gaither (9)

GROUP 16. Hyde Park, Near South Side

Kayla Taylor (11, Near S. Side), Rebecca Gallas (12, Near S. Side), Joanna Cohen (12, Hyde Park)

The Joffrey Ballet's annual production of The Nutcracker is coming December 10–26 at the Auditorium Theatre. As always, young dancers from the Chicagoland area join the main company in this production, and this year we have many students from the south side joining the cast, many of whose parents are avid Village View readers!



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Craft and Vendor Fair
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Nov 20th 10am-5pm and
Nov 21st 9am-3pm
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Saturday, November 20
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12633 S. Ashland
Calumet Park, IL 60827

11/23 2:00 p.m.
Jedi's Garden Restaurant
9266 S. Cicero Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

11/24 10:00 a.m.
Palos Heights Rec Center
6601 W. 127th St.
Palos Heights, IL 60463

11/29 2:00 p.m.
Chicago Hghts. Park Dist
1400 Chicago Rd.
Chicago Hghts, IL 60411

11/30 2:00 p.m.
Jedi's Garden Restaurant
9266 S. Cicero Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

12/1 10:00 a.m.
Palos Heights Rec Center
6601 W. 127th St.
Palos Heights, IL 60463

12/2 10:00 a.m.
Blue Island Park Dist.
12804 S. Highland Ave.
Blue Island, IL 60406

12/3 10:00 a.m.
Peachtree Cafe
4020 Lincoln Hwy.
Matteson, IL 60443

12/7,12/14 2:00 p.m.
Jedi's Garden Restaurant
9266 S. Cicero Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

12/9 10:00 a.m.
Original Pancake House
10437 S. Western Ave.
Chicago , IL 60643

12/10,12/20 10:00 a.m.
Chicago Hghts. Park Dist
1400 Chicago Rd.
Chicago Hghts, IL 60411

12/13 10:00 a.m.
Palos Heights Rec.Center
6601 W. 127th St.
Palos Heights, IL 60463

12/13 10:00 a.m.
Peachtree Cafe
4020 Lincoln Hwy.
Matteson, IL 60443

12/14,12/27 10:00 a.m.
Blue Island Park Dist.
12804 S. Highland Ave.
Blue Island, IL 60406

12/21,12/28 2:00 p.m.
Jedi's Garden Restaurant
9266 S. Cicero Ave.
Oak Lawn , IL 60453

12/22 10:00 a.m.
Palos Heights Rec Center
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Village View

We serve our community with good news!

FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 22 | November 16, 2010

Dollar Tinley Park Contract

by Ronald Ayers

Chicago based Project Management Advisors (PMA) was awarded a two hundred thousand dollar service contract by the Village of Tinley Park during the November 2, 2010 board meeting held in village hall 16250 Oak Park. The contract calls on PMA to serve as "the Owner's Representative" on behalf of the village in the implementation of the construction phase of the 80th Avenue Metra Station project.

Over the past several months PMA provided Tinley Park with advisory services. The real estate consulting services firm reviewed and analyzed the viability of Zeorp Services of Romeoville, Illinois, the low bidder on the 80th Avenue project.

On October 26, 2010, PMA recommended, and the village board approved, a ten million dollar contract to Zeorp Services to build the 80th Avenue Train station. "PMA will be responsible for providing overall project management services, and for overseeing the Village's implementation of the Federal Transportation Agency (FTA) —Metra required Quality Management Program (QMP)," Said Trustee Michael H. Bettenhausen.

Trustee Bettenhausen sits on the Village's Budget, Audit and Administration Committee, as well as the Planning and Zoning Committee. PMA is to receive a fee of $239,182 for its services. According to Trustee Bettenhausen this represents 2.3 percent of the 80th Avenue construction cost. "This amount is consistent with industry standards for providing owner's representation services," Said Bettenhausen.

The board also approved an agreement with Commonwealth Edison (COMED) for Facility Relocation at the 80th Avenue Train station. In May 2010, the Village authorized ComEd to begin the design and engineering for the relocation of approximately one thousand one hundred (1,100) feet of overhead electric lines in the vicinity of the 80th Avenue Metra Depot.

"ComEd has completed the design and engineering for the project and determined the work can be performed at a cost of one hundred and seventy one thousand nine hundred and sixty five dollars and twenty seven cents ($171,965.27)" said Bettenhausen.

In other matters the board unanimously approved the following consent agenda items.

- Request from "You Can Make It" Outreach ministry to conduct a fundraiser November 16, 17, and 18, 2010.
- Approved payment of $1,196,639.26 to William A. Randolph, Inc. for construction services relative to the Tinley Park Convention Center. Money is to be paid from the 2009A Bond Fund.
- Approved payment of $325,270.14 to William A. Randolph, Inc. for parking lot construction services at the Tinley Park Convention Center. The money to be paid from the 2009A Bond Fund.

Approved payment of $72,464.39 to Populus for architectural services at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Money to be paid from the 2009A Bond Fund

- Approved payment of $17,314.05 to Project Management Advisors, Inc. (PMA) for Owner's Representative Services for the Tinley Park Convention Center. Money to be paid from the 209A Bond Fund.
- Approved payment of $117,731.25 to American Pipe Layers, Inc. for work completed on the 2010 SSES area Sanitary Sewer CIPP – Old Tinley and Sundale. Money to be paid from the Sewer Rehab and Replacement Fund.
- Approved payment of $1,888,996.77 in outstanding bills as listed on the Vendor Board Approval Report dated October 29, 2010.

The Tinley Park-Frankfort Rotary's Annual Poinsettia Sale Helps the Crisis Center for South Suburbia!

The Tinley Park-Frankfort Rotary Club is holding its 4th Annual Poinsettia Sale through November 19, 2010.

Proceeds will be donated to the Crisis Center for South Suburbia. The plants are supplied by Ted's Greenhouse of Tinley Park in a selection of sizes and colors. Plants can be purchased through any rotary member or by visiting www.tinleyparkfrankfort rotary.com

The Crisis Center for South Suburbia's mission is to provide emergency shelter and other essential services for individuals and families victimized by domestic violence and address the societal issues that contribute to domestic violence.

Visit www.crisisctr.org for more information on the Crisis Center for South Suburbia, ways to support its mission, and the services it provides.

Tinley Park Park District announces theatre completion

Open House at the New Tinley Park Performing Arts Center November 20

The Tinley Park-Park District is pleased to announce the completion of renovations to the District's former McCarthy Recreation facility. The result is a charming and intimate 110-seat theater that will be home to several of the Park District's programs. Several months of planning and construction have resulted in a wonderful facility that is now the official home of the Arts Alive! Children's Theater, Tinley Park Community Theater, music programs, writers and poets group, and many others.

The Park District will celebrate the new theater with an open house on Saturday, November 20 from 1:00-3:00 pm. This will provide community residents with an opportunity to see the new facility first hand. "Our open house will feature AACT UP! Children's Theater, the Community Theater performing scenes from Into the Woods and Brighton Beach Memoirs, a clarinet ensemble called "Liquoriche Shticks", and skits from students in our improv classes," offered Lamie Fanelli, Cultural Arts Supervisor for the Park District. The event is designed to showcase the various opportunities available through the Park District that allow community residents to participate in and enjoy performing arts.

The open house takes place at the new Tinley Park Performing Arts Center, 16801 S. 80th Avenue in Tinley Park. Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ABOUT THE TINLEY PARK-PARK DISTRICT

The Tinley Park-Park District maintains over 420 acres of park lands and recreation facilities including its state of the art Bettenhausen Recreation Center, Tinley Fitness – a full-service fitness center, and 40 community park locations. The Tinley Park-Park District was established in 1967.

Orland Park Arts Commission to host a Holiday Conert

The Orland Park Arts Commission will host a holiday concert featuring Orland Park native and baritone Jonathan Beyer with soprano Sarah Gartshore and pianist Steven Hargreaves on Friday, December 3, at the Orland Park Cultural Arts Center, 14760 Park Lane.

Jonathan Beyer is a baritone who has performed with several opera companies and has given recitals in cities across the United States and worldwide, receiving numerous awards and winning many competitions. Beyer has degrees from the Curtis Institute of Music and the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University. Selected as one of Symphony magazine's emerging artists, soprano Sarah Gartshore has appeared in numerous operas, choral arts festivals and performed with symphony orchestras.

A native of Canada, Ms. Gartshore is a graduate of Roosevelt University of Chicago College of Performing Arts. Steven Hargreaves divides his professional work between conducting and solo performances.

He possesses a particular love for the old and the new, specializing in baroque and contemporary music. Hargreaves has performed in cities across the United States. He has been the music director of Bethany United Church of Christ for ten years, where he has conducted sacred repertoire including multi-ple Bach cantatas and the Messiah.

"We are very excited to welcome these extra-ordinary artists to perform at the Village's Cultural Arts Center during the holiday season," said Trustee Kathy Fenton, chair of the Village's Community Outreach and Special Events Committee.

"It's wonderful that the Arts Commission is again offering outstanding musical entertainment at a reasonable cost close to home," she added.

The trio will perform a variety of music selections from theatre, opera, and Christmas, including Mozart, Gershwin, Handel, Tchaikovsky and more on December 3 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Tickets are $15 per person and may be purchased at the cashier's office at the Frederick T. Owens Village Hall, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue. The cashier's office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Only 200 tickets will be sold and a limited number of tickets may be available at the door.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 22 | November 16, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

A row of teacher Kelly Ness' students listens to a podcast in French. District 218's educational foundation awarded Ness a grant to purchase equipment that allowed her to conduct more speaking assessments more often, enhance her students' skill development.

Foreign Languages become clearer for District 218

As she distributes headphones to her French students, teacher Kelly Ness smiles as she discusses the simple, direct solution to a vexing issue.

Foreign language teachers at Richards, Shepard and Eisenhower high schools won grant funds to buy podcasting equipment. "I used to have the students come up to my desk one at a time to have them complete a speaking assignment. This would take about two to three days," Ness said. Further, occupying the other students who did not have access to equipment created a kind of instructional juggling act for her. "You had to keep the other students busy so that you could hear the student who was doing his or her assessment.

I always found this to be a waste of class time. Because of this, I did not do many speaking assessments," Ness said. Reading and writing typically comprise the easiest parts of learning a foreign language. "We use a program where the students can speak into the headphones and record themselves speaking French. They can listen to themselves and edit their mistakes.

They then submit their speaking to me via my website. I can listen to them and assess them out of class, thus saving precious class time for instruction," Ness said. Teachers don't often get to blend 'easier' with 'effective.' However, speaking assessments in foreign language classes now qualify as both. "I find myself doing many more speaking and listening assignments. The students really enjoy them," said Ness. And that has translated into every language teacher's goal.

"I am seeing an increase in their fluency because they are speaking so much more often. Not only that, but the students are becoming much more comfortable with speaking French. They are not as scared and hesitant because they can practice and record at their own pace," she said. District 218's educational foundation distributes grants twice each academic year. The foundation, comprised of parents, alumni and other community volunteers, organizes fund raisers to support teaching grants, college scholarships, and facility enhancement.

Worth rejects home rule referendum

by Matt Mayer

It was a somber evening at the Nov. 3 Worth Board of Trustees meeting. The meeting commenced when Mayor Randy Keller said "Home rule was a golden opportunity for this village to move forward in paying off our debt, bringing back our laid off employees, rebuilding our roads, and addressing our rental property issues. Unfortunately the majority of voters did not agree with our solution for the financial crisis. Instead of moving forward, I believe our village took several steps backwards".

"After five newsletters, three town hall meetings and a question and answers session the night before the election, I was still asked when greeting voters at the polls, what was home rule", Keller said.

"I'm proud of the way this board has conducted themselves in the process of informing our residents about home rule. I want to thank all of you who worked hard to get the message out to our residents", Keller said. "This board will be going into closed session later in this meeting to discuss personnel matters, which are going to reduce our expenses by the necessary $600,000 to $700,000. In order to accomplish this, it may affect the positions of at least 15 of our village employees. The Village of Worth will never be the same as a result of the election", Keller said.

Within the period following the meeting, the village lay off two clerical employees and eliminated the Village Collectors position, which was held by the Village Clerk Bonnie Price. The village's clerical employees will now assume the collectors duties officials said. The village also discontinued their Crossing Guard Program, which eliminate seventeen part time employees. The leaf disposal program was also discontinued. The village will refund the $50 fee that 59 residents had paid for this program. Officials said more cuts are expected to follow.

Christmas Care sponsors by the Worth Township Youth Commission

Worth Township Youth Commission is again sponsoring its "Christmas Care" program for families experiencing financial difficulties. New toys and "gently used" coats will be available to township residents for the Christmas holiday.

Toys are available for infants through age 10 only. Parents must bring in a photocopy of a current drivers' license or State I.D., a photocopy of a Birth Certificate of each child, and a photocopy of a current utility bill. These copies will not be returned and will remain with your application.

Toys will not be distributed unless a photocopy of each item is presented. Items will be available for pick-up during the week of December 13 through 17, 2010.

Applications are now being accepted and ending on December 10, 2010. No applications will be accepted after December 10, 2010. An application must be completely filled out and all documentation presented. Applications must be submitted in person only. Application forms are available at 11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip, IL. between the hours of 9:00 - 4:30 PM beginning November 01.

If there is any question regarding the program or eligibility, please call 371-2900, ext. 45.

Palos Park approves Southwest Central Dispatch Agreement

by Matt Mayer

A license agreement between the village and the Southwest Central Dispatch (SWCD) was approved at a recent Palos Park board of commissioners meeting. (SWCD) is an inter-governmental agency that supplies 911 emergency police, fire, and other safety dispatch services to 12 area communities including Palos Park.

Palos Park has received a request from William Shanley, Director of SWCD, to install two microwave relay antennas on the village monopole at 12150 Wolf Road. SWCD has already obtained approval for a facility at this site.

Daniel Polk, Commissioner of Public Health and Safety, said that the Palos Park Police announced "Cops For The Cure" for Police Officer Debbie Legatzke, who was diagnosed with breast cancer. She is currently home recovering and has been an incredible inspiration to all officers, Polk said. The village police officers will be wearing pink breast cancer wristbands to show their support for Debbie as well as exploring other options to help her. Also Police Officer Ross Chibe received the Cook County Sheriff's award on Tuesday, Nov. 9.

Police Chief Joe Miller was one several community leaders who was invited to participated in this years annual Muscular Dystrophy Association's (MDA) lock-up fundraiser. Miller was served with a warrant on Oct. 27 and charged with having a big heart for agreeing to support the MDA.

Miller's goal was to seek donations, which would serve as his bail. All proceeds will benefit Muscular Dystrophy research, specialized medical care clinic and a summer camp for children.

Residents were advised to be more alert as deer become more active especially during October and November. Safety tips to avoid deer-vehicle collisions include: while driving near woods and creeks especially during early morning or evening hours, reduce speed and watch for deer.

Be prepared to stop suddenly, honk your horn and or flash your headlights to frighten the deer.

If a deer is spotted, one must believe that others are either ahead or behind the one seen.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 22 | November 16, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Crestwood Mayor makes one hundred and thirty-seven appointments to Police and Fire Department.

by Ronald Ayers

Crestwood Mayor Robert Stranczek asked for and received the unanimous approval from board members to appointment one hundred and thirty seven new members to the Crestwood Police Department, and the Village's Fire Rescue Unit during Crestwood's November 4, 2010 board meeting. The appointments are part-time. New appointees will earn hourly salaries ranging from twenty dollars per hour to ten dollars per hour. Mayor Stranczek appointed:

· One (1) Deputy Chief, and three (3) Commanders at part-time salary of $12.75 per hour. · Three (3) Detective Sergeants at part-time salary of $12.75 per hour. · Eleven (11) part-time Sergeants at a salary of $12.7 per hour. · One (1) Patrolman/ Community Crisis and Intervention Officer at a salary of $12.75 per hour. · Forty-nine (49) Patrolmen at a salary of $11.75 per hour. · Five (5) Auxiliary Officers at a salary of $11.75 per hour. · Fifteen (15) Community Service Officers at a salary of $10.60 per hour. · One (1) Police Clerk at the salary of $10.60 per hour. · One (1) Crossing Guard at the salary of $10.60 per hour. Mayor Stranczek also sought approval for the appointment of Forty-Seven (47) Part-time Fire Rescue Unit members and Community Services officers at salaries ranging from $11.75er hour to $20.00 per hour. Mayor Stranczek announced the appointment of Christopher P. Griffin, and Mahmaud M. Abdallah as new Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA).

In other business: The Village board directed it's attorney David Sosin to prepare special use permits for Dustin Miller of America's Auto Auction Chicago to operate an automotive auction with supplemental detailing and automotive repairs, on property located at 14001 So. Karlov. Attorney Sosin was also directed to prepare a special use ordinance to permit James Demas of Peak Sales Remarketing to operate an auto transportation company, auction sales and internet sales firm · on property located at 4351 Midlothian Turnpike with the stipulation that there will be "no outside storage on the premises."

Trustee William Wagner reported that the Public Works Department performed that the Public Works Department performed twenty-three activites in October such as: · Repairing and maintaining all Police Fire and Public Works vehicles. · Cleaned up Caesu Park, Walker Park, and Playfield Parks. · Painted bathroom at Biela Center Reporting on Building and Plats activity, Trustee Frank J. Gassmere said that in October: · Forty eight (48) permits were issued · The valuation of permits issued totaled: $1,236,774.00 · The dollar amount of permits issued totaled $8,112.96. Trustee William Wagner reported that during the month of October, the Public Works Department · Repaired and maintained all Police, Fire and Public Works · Cleaned up Caesar Park, Walker Park, and Playfield Parks. · Painted the bathroom at Biela Center.

The board approved the payroll payments to village employees in the amount of $143,177.79.

During the 11-9-10 City Council meeting, Blue Island Mayor Donald E. Peloquin (L) presents a resolution honoring Mario(Rt) and Joanne Marchione (Ctr) on the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple was married on November 4, 1950 at St. Donatus Church in Blue Island, Illinois. (Photo for the Village View by Ronald Ayers)

Midlothian Adopts Rules Regarding Right To Speak At Public Meetings.

by Ronald Ayers

The Midlothian Village Board adopted a resolution regarding the rights of the public to speak at meetings during its November 10, 2010 meeting held at village hall 14801 South Pulaski.

The resolution which sets forth rules under which an individual may speak at a public meeting was passed in response to a recent amendment to the Illinois Open Meetings Act(IOMA)

According to the IOMA all meetings, whether in person or by video or audio conference, telephone call, electronic means of any sort, where a majority of a quorum of a public body (or three members for a five-member body) meets to discuss or act on business in any way shall be open to the public except when the General Assembly determines the meeting closed.

IOMA defines government body as:

"All legislative, executive, administrative and advisory boards of the state and all its political subdivisions as well as any groups funded in part by tax revenue or which dispense tax revenue."

While the IOMA requires that government bodies must meet in public, and it specifies that bodies must vote in public, it did not speak to the issue of requiring an opportunity for members of the public to speak.

Addressing board members and meeting attendees 11-10-10, Village President Terry Stephens said:

"For many years we (Midlothian)have allowed public comments at board meetings even though Illinois law did not require us to do so."

Under the rules for speaking at open meetings unanimously adopted by Midlothian 11-10-10.

An individual shall stand, provide his or her legal name, his or her address, and once recognized by the presiding officer of the meeting , shall be allowed to speak.

An individual shall be allowed to speak only during the Public Comments session of the meeting.

The time each individual is allowed shall be limited to three minutes.

Any such speaking at a meeting must not interfere with the business being conducted at the meeting.

If an individual interferes with the conduct of the business at a meeting such individual shall be given an oral warning to refrain from disrupting the meeting.

If the individual continues to disrupt the meeting by oral comments, or in any other way disrupts the meeting, the individual will be asked to leave.

Individuals speaking at the meeting are not allowed to ask questions or make any comment, except during the public comment portion of the meeting. Any questions, comments or audible sounds made by any individual at other than the public comment section will be considered a disruption of the meeting.

Individuals shall not be allowed to speak during the meeting unless:

a. An individual is speaking during the public comment section of the meeting.

b. An individual is providing sworn testimony, via subpoena or otherwise.

c. An individual is invited to speak by a member of the Board of Trustees, member of Committee or Commission, the Village Clerk or Village President during the meeting.

d. An individual is asked a question by a member of the Board of Trustees, member of Committee or Commission, the Village Clerk or Village President during the meeting.

In other matters:

South Suburban Mayors and Managers (SSMMA) in conjunction with Robinson Engineering is sponsoring a "Warming Communities One Coat at A Time" Event November 1, 2010 through December 2, 2010. The community is asked to drop of clean, reusable coats at the SSMMA offices located at Odyssey Country Club 19110 S. Ridegland Ave. Tinley Park, IL 60477.

Business After Hours - Blue Cap

The Blue Island Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry is holding a BAH at Blue Cap's Instructional Center. Blue Cap serves infants, children and adults with developmental disabilities through community-based educational, therapeutic, vocational and residential opportunities.

When: Thursday, November 18, 5:00-7:00 p.m., free

Where: Blue Cap, 1962 Broadway; Blue Island.

Village View

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 11 | December 7, 2010

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Justice is swift to help less fortunate residents

by Julie Schabes

The 2010 Food Drive is underway to help our less fortunate residents.

Donation barrels are at the Village Hall and the Justice Library. Please donate nonperishable goods and unwrapped toys to help brighten smiles, fill tummies, and warm hearts this holiday season.

Volunteers are needed December 15th to 18th to help prepare and deliver baskets. Please call (708)458-2520 to give your time or items.

At the Board of Trustees Meeting, Mayor Kris Wasowicz moved to appoint Mr. Edward C. Rusch, Jr to fill a vacancy on the Board of Trustees. This motion was denied, so Mayor Wasowicz appointed consideration of his alternate, Richard Sparr.

The Board has 30 days to approve or deny Mr. Sparr.

A motion to approve the Employee Handbook for the Village of Justice.

The form provided was tabled due to some revisions at the attorney's suggestions. A motion to approve a Hookah bar was tabled as well.

A motion to combine two standing committees Finance & Insurance and Administration & Recreation has been approved. This new committee will be the Economic Development Committee.

Trustee Bartoszek requested that the budget process be postponed to the first meeting in 2011 so new proposals from each department may be presented to reduce the deficit. As it stands the village would have a $710,000 deficit.

A resident inquired why Trustee DePaola has not kept his commitment of repaying the Village his salary for the last 3rd of the year. Trustee DePaola explained he cannot at this time as planned because he lost his full-time employment. However, Trustee DePaola promises to repay this in the future.

Cell Phones For Seniors! Please help Cook County Sheriff Thomas J. Dart's Cell Phones for Seniors Program.

Please donate old working cell phones and chargers to the Justice Library donation box.

Deactivate the service and remove any personal information stored on the phones prior to donation.

These will be given free to seniors for emergency use. Your donation could be a lifesaver for a senior citizen.

Burbank's strict guidelines equals topnotch rescuers

by Julie Schabes

Effective January 1, 2011, the Burbank Fire and Police Commission will require all new applicants for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic to have completed a Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT), no more than six months prior to taking a written examination for Firefighter/Paramedic with the City of Burbank. This will ensure our brave Firefighters and Paramedics are fit for their physically demanding duties.

The loss of a loved one is always sad, especially when its someone young. Perhaps doing something extra special to honor their memory for the holidays may warm your heart a little?

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is having their Compassionate Friends Candlelighting Service Sunday December 12th at 7PM sharp. This special service is offered for anyone who has experienced the loss of a child. All are welcome.

Evergreen Park approves liquor license ordinance

by Matt Mayer

Mayor James Sexton at the Nov.15 Board of Trustees meeting again asked all able bodied people to put their leaves in the green containers if you are not composting. The last week for pick up on the green containers will be the week of Dec. 13, Sexton said.

Sexton said "We all received our tax bills and believe me it's not pretty. Whatever the state legislators managed to do in the county to change the system, they took some of the real-estate burden from commercial property which I understand needed some help and shifted to the residential" Sexton said. "Please make sure you are receiving your proper exemptions - yours truly had the misfortune of receiving a tax increase of $100,000.. With the shift they made 76-percent of the real-estate tax bill goes to two school districts and a college - the village portion is 13-percent" Sexton said. "It's getting a little out of hand - I don't mind paying my fair share but when it goes up $1,000 in one bill it's a little rough and there is no explanation in any of these bills that they made this shift" Sexton said. "I guess you're just supposed guess. We went on line and picked up some information - and we learned a little bit more about the tax situation. I think most of you feel the same way - they're almost taxing us out of our homes. It's costing $500 to $600 a month just in property taxes - this use to be a mortgage payment. Please keep an eye on your property taxes bills" Sexton said.

Other highlights: The village board approved an ordinance changing the verbiage of a section regarding fees and limitations and a chapter for alcoholic liquor by adding a class AA license and deleting a class B liquor license to the municipal code. The fire department received a 2009 Life Safety Achievement Award from the Residential Fire Safety Institute and the Research Educational Foundation, which the village has received since 1994. This achievement award is based on safety. A request to extend the Chicago water supply contract an additional 10 years was approved/as well as a request for payment for the Illinois Municipal League (IML) membership dues of $1,229.00 for 2011. The IML is currently fighting for more fair and equable pensions an example in a recent bulletin states that any employee could pay in $300,000 over 30 years towards a state or local government pension and receive $7.5 million in benefits. The IML is working to adjust and create a fairer pension system. State employees can retire at 50 and receive full benefits, Sexton said.

Students enrolled in the Music Seminar course at Richards High School each received new guitars from a grant from the Grammy Foundation and Best Buy and a donation from the Richards Music Boosters.

Grant funds purchase guitars for Richards music students

Holding new guitars, strumming to themselves, students in the Music Seminar class at Richards High School could not contain their smiles.

Their teachers won a grant from Best Buy and the Grammy Foundation, and now they had guitars to play. It was a pretty good day.

"Because of the grant funds, our students will work on learning the history of popular music through playing guitars. Students will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge of music genres and learn to play some of their favorite songs on the guitar," said Kristin Morris, the choir director at Richards.

Morris and band director Charles Martin won a $2,000 grant from the Grammy Foundation and Best Buy Corporation. The Music Boosters from Richards also helped pay for the guitars. "We would not be able to provide all the guitars for this class without the support of both the Booster Club and the Best Buy/Grammy Foundation Grant.

Each of these organizations provided substantial financial assistance in the purchase of these instruments. Our goal is to provide the best music education possible. We're able to enhance our course offerings because of the generosity of these two organizations," Morris said.

Diane, Wife of Midlothian Mayor Stevens passed away

by Ronald Ayers

Amidst news that the wife of Midlothian Mayor Terry Stephens had died suddenly, Trustee Karen Kreis wielded the gavel as Mayor Pro Tempore over a somber Village Board meeting November 24, 2010 at the Midlothian Village Hall 14801 S. Pulaski. "Can we please take a moment of prayer and silence to remember Diane, and Stephen's family," said Kries.

When Kreis gaveled the meeting to order, the board then moved quietly, and quickly to pass a new waste hauling agreement for the Village and adopt an amendment to the Village's premium only health plan. The board passed a resolution, to "Execute an Agreement with Allied Waste of Crestwood, Illinois for garbage collection services in the village.

Under the terms of the new agreement:

· The monthly rate effective January 1, 2011 will be $16.40 per unit per month. This rate is to take effect once Allied Waste delivers the recycling toters to residents (on or about May 15, 2011) Prior to the delivery of recycling toters to residents, the monthly charge will be $15.4 per unit per month.

·Allied will proved 96 gallon toters for trash and additional toters will be delivered during the second quarter of 2011.

·Allie will be responsible for the maintenance, repair and or replacement of all toters. · Residents will be required to place all their trash (other than bulk items) in the96-gallon toter supplied by Allied Waste.

·Allied Waste will pick up trash on a weekly basis according to its current schedule.

·Allied Waste will provide 65 gallon toters for recycling of glass, aluminum and paper

·The recycling Drop Off Center will be discontinued. All recycling will be picked up at the curbs in front of residents' homes.

·The rates will be adjusted by a 3.5 percent increase on January 1 of each year of the contract. The contract with Allied runs from 1-1-2011 to 1-1-2015 at which time the rate will be $18.81 per unit per month. The board passed a resolution adopting amendments to the Village's section 125 Premium Only Plan ("POP Plan) for the benefit of its eligible employees. Section 125 Premium only Cafeteria Plans (usually called "POPs") are designed to reduce taxes on insurance premiums only.

Midlothian's amendment to it's POP documents originally adopted by Midlothian October 28, 1998 brings the Village into compliance with the Healthcare and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 and the Patient Protection on Affordable Care Act.

(PPACA) The PPACA popularly known as "OBAMA CARE", is a federal statute signed into law by President Barack Obama on March 23, 2010. Along with the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, signed into law on March 30, 2010, the Act is the product of the health care reform agenda of the Democratic 111th Congress and the Obama administration.

Public Notice Statement from Executive Director Gretchen Hamel

Gretchen Hamel, Public Notice's Executive Director, stated: "Pass or fail, the Commission's report is an historic step toward critical reform. I may not agree with every provision – clearly, the Commissioners themselves don't agree with every provision – but the fact that they were able to work together, in a bi-partisan way, to propose real, significant spending reforms should be considered an enormous win in-and-of itself.

Now it's Congress' and the Administration's turn. No one is required to act – or even to debate – the findings of the Commission's report. But failing to do so would be inexcusable.

Washington has been punting on dealing with its unsustainable spending growth for decades. The time for excuses has passed; the economic and fiscal crisis is today at our doorstep.

"It's time for every American to demand our elected representatives do what we sent them there to do: return fiscal sanity to Washington before it's too late.

Blue Island rescinds handicap parking restrictions

by Ronald Ayers

In the absence of Blue Island Mayor Donald E. Peloquin, Seventh Ward Alderman, and Judiciary Committee Chairman Domingo Vargas presided as Mayor pro temporere over a city council that passed an ordinance rescinding handicapped parking.

Ordinance 10-115 was passed unanimously during the city council's November 23, 2010 meeting held in City Council Chambers located in the City Hall East Annex, 2434 W. Vermont Street.

The handicap parking only restriction had applied to the property located at 2638 Orchard Street

Ordinance 10-115 also directs the Superintendent of Public Works to remove all signs from the property which restricted parking to handicapped only.

In other business, Alderwoman Jan Ostling, chairman of the Public Health and Safety Committee delivered reports concerning the cities fire and police departments.

Ostling said that in October, 2010 the Fire Department:

·155 patients were treated
·132 patients transported
·48 refused transport
·108 total time in service
·245.32 man ours in service
·103 day response
·79 night response
·288 grand total fire and emergency medical service

Alderman Ostling said the Fire Department collected $28,257.25 from Medical reimbursement Services, Inc. Concerning the Police Department, Alderman Ostling reported that in October 2010 there were:

1098 parking citations
·470 moving citations
·21,074 miles patrolled
·2,553 calls answered
·475 traffic stops

Alderwoman Ostling said the Police Department collected $61,925.10 in fines and fees in October. The council unanimously approved accounts payable in the amount of $334,390.87.

Southwest Suburban Cook County Residents urged to help redesign Harlem Avenue

The Southwest Conference of Mayors is asking the residents of southwest suburban Cook County to help redesign Harlem Avenue by participating in the creation of a new plan that will improve the transportation, economic and aesthetic character of the Harlem Avenue Corridor. The idea is to develop a roadway that brings a sense of community, improves traffic flow and serves the interests of the businesses and residents that line it.

The project, known as the Harlem Avenue Corridor Plan, has just launched a website, www.Harlem-Corridor.com, where interested parties can learn more about the project and how to get involved. Beginning now until November 2011, residents will have several opportunities to voice their opinions and review the progress of the plan.

The project area runs from 63rd Street in Bedford Park on the north to I-80 in Tinley Park on the south. The project is a joint effort among the 10 municipalities within the project area along with state, regional and local transportation agencies. The 10 municipalities within the project area are: Bedford Park, Bridgeview, Burbank, Oak Lawn, Chicago Ridge, Palos Hills, Worth, Palos Heights, Orland Park, and Tinley Park.

Harlem Avenue is major transportation corridor for the southwest suburbs. It is a key route for a quarter million residents. It is a lifeline for local businesses and industries of varying kinds. It is also the route to major entertainment venues and recreation spots. The plan aims to ease traffic, improve safety, enhance the appearance, and protect the natural elements. Ultimately the plan aims to improve the quality of life and property values by making Harlem Avenue a better place to visit live work invest.

Southwest suburban Cook residents are encouraged to learn more about the Harlem Avenue Corridor plan. Its success depends on the contributions of those who know the subject best, the residents and businesses that travel Harlem Avenue every day.

Lipinski Votes for Middle Class Tax Relief, Calls for Temporary Extension of Tax Cuts for All Americans

Congressman Dan Lipinski (IL-3) voted for the Middle Class Tax Relief Act, H.R. 4853, to extend tax cuts that will help middle-class families and promote economic growth at a critical juncture in the nation's recovery from recession.

The bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 234 to 188."

Raising taxes now could reduce private-sector spending and investment, putting the brakes on growth at a time when we cannot afford to do anything that could slow job creation. As I have said previously, my preference would be to temporarily extend the tax cuts for all income brackets. This would allow the recovery to continue while enabling Congress to revisit the issue in light of concerns about our national debt.

Prior to the final vote on H.R. 4853, I voted against the rule that made it impossible to amend the bill to provide for a temporary extension of the tax cuts for all Americans." H.R. 4853 extends the tax cuts on income under $200,000 for individuals and under $250,000 for married couples. It also extends the child tax credit, marriage penalty relief, and capital gains and dividend tax cuts, and prevents more than 25 million taxpayers from being hurt by the alternative minimum tax through 2011. The bill would save a typical middle-class family $1,000 annually. "There has been plenty of partisan posturing over the extension of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, and I've heard more than a few misleading claims about what today's vote does and doesn't do," Congressman Lipinski said. "But the reality is simple: this bill would prevent a tax increase on the middle class.

For that reason, I voted for it. However, it is almost certain that this bill will not pass the Senate, and bipartisan negotiations are currently underway at the behest of the White House. I support these negotiations, and strongly believe that instead of trying to score political points, the two parties should be working together to find common ground.

I expect that in the end we will be called to vote on a temporary extension of the tax cuts for all households. I look forward to supporting that legislation."

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Via Door

Pictured left to right are William Dougherty, Officers Andrew Gorlewski and Kimball Suen and Greg Bella. Sergeant Frank Luera is not pictured.

Police Officers awarded for bravery

William Dougherty, 1st Vice President and Greg Bella, 3rd Vice President of the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, presented the Distinguished Service Award to Police Officers Andrew Gorlewski, Kimball Suen and Sergeant Frank Luera.

Sergeant Luera and Police Officers Suen and Gorlewski responded to a Domestic Disturbance at 5044 W. 51st Street. As they exited their vehicles the offender had retreated into the house.

As the officers entered the house they were met by a hysterical woman who wanted her husband to leave.

As Sgt. Luera ordered him out of the house the offender produced a knife and put it to his throat. Sgt. Luera tasered the offender, which had no effect, and he then pulled the barbs from his chest.

The offender then grabbed his wife and put the knife to her throat and backed into the kitchen. As the offender backed up Officer Gorlewski moved to the side while Sgt Luera and Officer Suen moved towards them.

Officer Gorlewski attempted to pull the wife from the grasp of the offender, who was again tasered by Sgt. Luera. Again the taser had no effect and the offender threw his wife to the side and charged Officer Suen and Sgt. Luera, brandishing the knife.

Officer Suen, in fear for his life as well as the lives of his Sergeant and partner, fired four shots, striking the offender. They immediately called for EMS and transported the offender to Stroger Hospital, where he was pronounced DOA.

It was later learned by the Detectives that when the wife called the police, the offender had placed knives in a cabinet in the bedroom, where he hoped to lure the officers and then attack them.

Because of the bravery exhibited by these officers, a felon intent on causing harm to his family and the responding police officers was permanently removed from the streets of Chicago. It is with great appreciation that the Fraternal Order of Police, Chicago Lodge #7, presents Sergeant Frank Luera, and Officers Kimball Suen and Andrew Gorlewski with Distinguished Service Awards.

St. Damian's New
RAFFLE EXTRAVAGANZA
Saturday, January 8th, 2011
$10,000 In Prizes
Doors Open at 12:30pm * Early Birds 2:00pm * Games Begin 2:30pm
TV Raffle
St. Damian Church and School
5300 West 155th St., Oak Forest
(708) 687.1370
Basket Giveaways
Multiple Games of Chance, Raffle Tabs, Split the Pot Raffle and more!
Come Back and Play with us Again! Our Doors Are OPEN!
Computer Package
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At Door - $110
1-240 Computer
1-18 on Bingo Card
1-Bull Eye Card
1-Dauber
1-Italian Beef Sandwich Meal
Paper Package
Pre Pay - $60
At Door - $70
1-18 on Bingo Cards
1-Bulls Eye Card
1-Dauber
1-Italian Beef Sandwich Meal
www.stdamianschool.org

St. Rita High School announces community invitations

St. Rita High School "Night of Champions"

Wednesday, December 15, 2010 at 6pm St. Rita of Cascia High School invites 7th and 8th grade young men to participate in its "Night of Champions" on Wednesday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m. Individual and team competitions in numerous sports will be held. St. Rita is located at 7740 S. Western Ave., Chicago. For more information or to register visit www.stritahs.com/admissions or contact Mr. Craig Ferguson, Director of Admissions, at 773-925-7482 cferguson@stritahs.com.

St. Rita High School Kairos Gathering

Saturday, December 26, 2010 at 7pm St. Rita of Cascia High School will host its Annual Kairos Fourth Day Gathering on Sunday, December 26, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Rita Shrine Chapel. All alumni who attended a Kairos retreat are invited to a special Mass with pizza and socializing to follow. For more information contact Mrs. Vicki Blaszak, Director of Campus Ministry, at 773-925-6600 ext. 6676 or vblaszak@stritahs.com.

Perpetual Novena to St. Rita

Thursday, January 6, 2011 at 7pm All are invited to the next monthly St. Rita of Cascia Novena Mass to be held Thursday, January 6, 2011 at the St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, 7740 S. Western Ave., Chicago, IL. Confessions will take place at 6:00 p.m. Mass and novena prayers will begin at 7:00 p.m. Secure and ample parking is available.

St. Rita High School Entrance Exam

Saturday, January 8, 2011 at 8am St. Rita of Cascia High School will be holding its Entrance Exam on Saturday, January 8, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. 8th grade students are asked to arrive between 7:30 and 7:45 a.m. and to bring 2 #2 pencils. Calculators will be permitted. There is a $25 registration fee. St. Rita High School is located at 7740 S. Western Ave. For more information visit www.stritahs.com/admissions or contact Mr. Craig Ferguson, Director of Admissions at 773-925-7482 cferguson@stritahs.com.

St. Rita of Cascia High School Hosts Winterfest 7

Saturday, January 29, 2011 from 6:30pm – 12:00amSt. Rita of Cascia High School will hold its 7th Annual Winterfest on Saturday, January 29, 2011, from 6:30 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. This adults-only event is four parties in one, all going on simultaneously at the school, 7740 S. Western Ave., Chicago.

This year's theme is "St. Rita Celebrates the Holidays".

There's something for everyone! Tickets are $40 in advance; $50 at the door, $30 for Seniors 62 & Over.

The ticket price includes dinner, a five hour open bar, and entertainment. Must be 21 years or older to attend. St. Rita invites everyone in the area to join in this wonderful party.

Call (773) 925-5029 to order tickets.

Queen of Peace Presents Joyful Songs

Queen of Peace High School will host its annual Winter Performing Arts Show on Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 7 p.m. in the school's gym.

"Joyful Songs" will showcase the talents of the Chamber Ensemble, Frosh Chorus, Show Choir, Combined Choral Ensemble (including faculty and staff members), and the Peace Dance Company.

Featured selections include Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, Deo Gracias, Deck the Hall and All That Jazz, and the Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy.

Tickets are $3 for general admission and will be sold at the door. Queen of Peace is located at 7659 S. Linder in Burbank.

WISHING YOU A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON & A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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(Pictured from left): Candidate David Cormany, Trustee and Candidate Mary McGee, Trustee Phil DePaola, Trustee Kinga Bartoszek, Candidate Raymond Heabel and Trustee and Candidate John Kosiowski.

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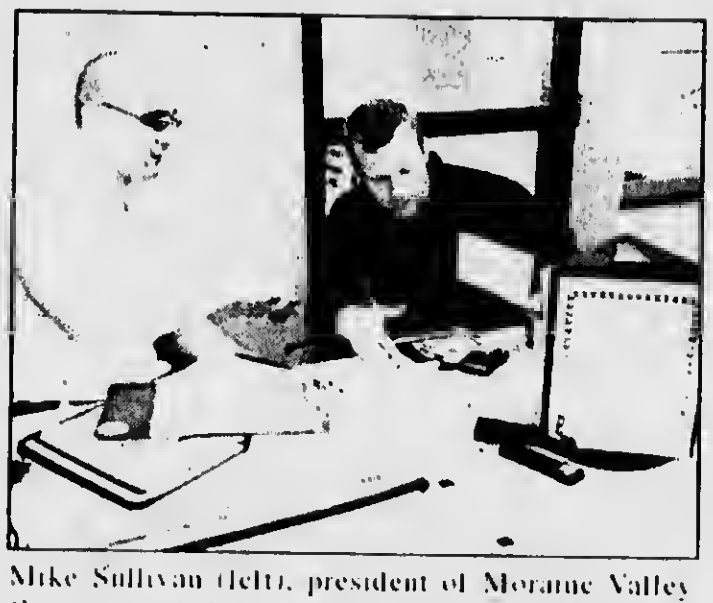

Mike Sullivan (left), president of Moraine Valley Community College's Combat to College, assists Ryan Brazel, a Moraine Valley student and veteran of the Navy, with questions about college benefits for veterans.

Moraine Valley student named Chicago director for Student Veterans of America

Mike Sullivan, a Moraine Valley Community College student and infantry reconnaissance in the United States Marines from 2000 to 2004, was elected as the Chicago director for Student Veterans of America (SVA) at the organization's national conference in Washington, DC. As the Chicago director, Sullivan, who is president of the college's SVA chapter known as Combat to College, is the liaison between nine active SVA chapters at higher education institutions in Cook, DuPage and Will Counties and the state, regional, and national directors.

He reaches out to those chapters monthly to find out the issues their veterans need assistance with, and he educates them about how SVA is advocating for them on a national level. He also meets with local schools that do not have SVA chapters to help their veterans start one.

"We have a unique opportunity because our schools are so close to each other that we can start working together on a sub-regional level to grow our numbers and recognition which ultimately improves our ability to solve problems," said Sullivan.

"My goal is to get every veteran who is going to school to be a part of SVA so when they come across something that can make their transition less painful, we can get that done for them."

At Moraine Valley, the Combat to College student organization has 210 members, including a few civilians who joined because they care about veterans' issues and want to help.

Members of the group get help with social and cultural challenges of academic life, including meeting people who understand them, peer support, tutoring, and even counseling, if necessary. "It's said that every year you spend in the military, you age four years in body and mind," said Sullivan.

"Veterans have a much different maturity level coming out of the military than the typical 18- to 21-year-old college student. We are our own culture. We're different and unique, but that doesn't mean we can't integrate with the rest of the students.

When everyone comes together, that's what makes Moraine Valley what it is."

Sullivan was deployed to Iraq, Kosovo, Haiti, and the Horn of Africa in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He joined the military because of pride and patriotism and hopes to become president of the Student Veterans of America.

A self-proclaimed "chemistry geek," he plans to attend pharmacy school after graduating from Moraine Valley in the spring. "I want people to know about SVA. It's enabled me to help a lot of veterans over the years, and I'm glad to dedicate my time to it," Sullivan said.

Burbank Park District Winterfest 2010

- Visits by Santa & Frosty -
- Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides -
- Holiday Face Painting -
- Holiday Games - Refreshments -
- Queen of Peace Chamber Singers -
- Magician - Petting Zoo -
- Burbank Park District Dance Show -
- Pictures with Santa (Bring your own camera) -

Saturday, December 11th
Noon - 3:00 p.m.
FREE

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www.burbankparkdistrict.org

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MetroSouth Medical Center experts offer holiday tips and recipes for heartburn sufferers

The holidays present a great opportunity for overindulgence – and for some 60 million Americans, that can mean heartburn, which is the most common symptom of gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), frequently referred to as acid reflux. Reflux is a condition in which the acid from the stomach backs up into the esophagus and causes heartburn. Unfortunately, during holiday parties, we eat more sweet and rich foods and drink more coffee and alcohol, and we pay the price with increased reflux. But holiday parties don't have to be unpleasant if you approach holiday buffets sensibly.

According to Dr. Kevin Dolehide, M.D., a gastroenterologist from MetroSouth Heartburn Clinic, there are two varieties of heartburn foods that cause problems: the first type causes an increase of stomach acid, which can spill into the esophagus, causing heartburn. The second type is food that relaxes the esophageal sphincter (the flap between the stomach and the esophagus), which keeps it from closing properly and allows stomach acid to get into the esophagus.

Dr. Dolehide gives these holiday tips to sufferers:

Tip #1: Pick Stomach Safe Foods

Spicy and fatty foods are big contributors to stomach acid production. Watch out for these on holiday buffets! Instead, pick these stomach safe foods which can help avoid reflux and also provide long term benefits when they become a regular part of your daily diet. The foods listed below have no acidic content, very little fat, salt, or oil and will help the body and its natural stomach acidity level.

Say YES to these stomach-safe foods on holiday buffets or menus:

Skinless Chicken
Multi Grain Bread
Mineral Water
Green Beans
Crackers, pretzels
Fish
Fat-free or Goat Cheese
Fat-free Cream Cheese
Carrots
Broccoli
Baked Potatoes
Apples (fresh, dried and juiced)
Hot cider
Non-alcoholic beer
Red licorice

Just Say NO To These Heartburn Causing Foods:

Ground beef
Most cheeses, salami
Mashed potatoes
Chicken nuggets/buffalo wings
Milk shakes
Ice cream
Macaroni and Cheese
Orange, grapefruit or cranberry juice
Lemons lemonade
French fries
Onions
Tomato sauce
Cottage cheese
Alcoholic beverages
Chocolate
Peppermint
Coffee/tea

Tip #2: Lifestyle Changes to Reduce Reflux.

Even though eating more of the foods in the first group above can have positive results, it is important to implement some additional lifestyle changes:

1. Be patient when eating. Chew and swallow slowly.
2. Spread your food out over four to six smaller meals a day rather than three large meals. This will keep your stomach from overexertion.
3. Eat foods that are high in complex carbohydrates, such as rice, bread and pasta.
4. Avoid high fat meals such as those from fast food chains. High fat foods remain in the stomach longer causing the need for more stomach acid for digestion.
5. Don't overeat! Eating too much of any foods will stimulate the stomach to secrete more acids for digestion.
6. Avoid coffee, chocolate and alcohol. Unfortunately, these are items available at most holiday parties!
7. Maintain upright position during and at least 45 minutes after eating.
8. Don't eat past 8 p.m. at night or several hours before bedtime. Give your food a chance to digest before going to sleep.

Dr. Dolehide says by following these suggestions, and approaching each party with a strategy of what to eat, reflux patients can have a memorable and pain free holiday season.

Food specialists from MetroSouth Heartburn Clinic have prepared some heartburn-friendly recipes for the holidays, including: pumpkin butterscotch muffins, chicken satay, chicken meatballs, whole wheat ginger snaps and low-fat crabdip. These recipes are available for download at www.healthconnect.MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com.

About MetroSouth Heartburn Clinic

MetroSouth Medical Center is pleased to announce the launch of its new Heartburn Clinic. More information can be at www.MetroSouthMedicalCenter.com. To schedule an appointment with a heartburn reflux physician, please call (855)-4REFLUX (855-473-3589).

Orland Township sponsors New Year's Eve dance

Orland Township is sponsoring a "New Year's Eve Dinner Dance" for seniors age 55 and over. The dinner dance will be held on Tuesday, December 28, 2010 at the Orland Chateau, 14500 S. LaGrange Road, Orland Park, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tickets are necessary and may be purchased at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., Orland Park. Resident tickets are available now for $16.00 each. Nonresident tickets are $21.00. Ticket price includes a family style meal and entertainment by the Swinging Times. Door prizes and a 50/50 raffle will be offered. Contact Township office at (708)403-4222.

HUD announces $11 Million in Community Development in Cook County

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan today announced Cook County will receive more than $11 million to support community development.

"This funding provides the building blocks needed to improve communities," said Donovan. "Now, more than ever, these grants promote neighborhood development, produce affordable housing, and help extremely low-income persons find their place in their communities."

Cook County's funding announced today is:

$11,316,030 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Since 1974, HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program has provided approximately $132 billion to state and local governments to target their own community develop-ment priorities.

The rehabilitation of affordable housing and the improvement of public facilities have traditionally been the largest uses of CDBG although the program is also an important catalyst for job growth and business opportunities.

Annual CDBG funds are distributed to communities according to a statutory formula based on a community's population, poverty, and age of its housing stock, and extent of overcrowded housing.

Manufacturers Oppose Tax Increases on Business

Senate Amendment Ties Important Proposals To a Bill that Denies Tax Relief To Many Manufacturers

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) Executive Vice President Jay Timmons issued the following statement today on Senate Amendment (SA) 4727 to the Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 2010 (H.R. 4853):

"Manufacturers oppose the Senate's amendment to the Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 2010 because it would result in a tax increase for the vast majority of America's small and medium manufacturers. The tax relief enacted in 2001 and 2003 played a key role in stimulating our economy as it repealed the estate tax and lowered both the individual tax rates and tax rates on investment.

The Senate amendment being voted on today does not include this critical relief. As a result, in January 2011, many manufacturers will see a top tax rate of nearly 40 percent.

Manufacturers strongly support extending the 2001 and 2003 tax rates for all taxpayers. According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, fully extending the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts would add between 600,000 and 1.4 million jobs in 2011 and between 900,000 and 2.7 million jobs in 2012.

Over 70 percent of American manufacturers file as S-corporations or some other pass thru-entity and will be significantly impacted by these higher rates. Americans want jobs, and this bill will only hinder job creation and economic growth.

Manufacturers strongly support many of the provisions in the Senate amendment, including the renewal of business "extenders" such as the R&D credit, "look-through" rules and deferral for active financing.

These incentives encourage energy efficiency and alternative sources of energy. We also support the repeal of the health care law's 1099 reporting provision. But attaching these important proposals to tax increases that will impact many manufacturers is not acceptable.

We will continue to work with Congress and the Administration to find a path forward on extending all the current tax rates."

Holiday Happening at the Palos Library

Celebrate the holidays with Magic Storyteller Chris McBrien's Holiday Happening at the Palos Park Public Library on Saturday, December 18th at 2pm. You'd better watch out, you'd better not cry, the Magic Storyteller is coming, don't let this chance slip by! Chris McBrien, the magic Storyteller, is coming with a sleigh full of holiday fun and cheer for the whole family! A holiday elf and many puppet friends will tell comical and entertaining stories and invite all to sing along. Discover the magic of the season in an afternoon with the Magic Storyteller.

The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park, IL. To register for this event contact the library at (708)448-1530 or visit us online at www.palosparklibrary.org

Worth Township Supervisor Jack Murphy announces the arrival of Santa

Supervisor Jack Murphy announces that Santa Claus will be at Worth Township, 11601 S. Pulaski, Alsip

Beginning December 6th through December 10th, and the week of December 13th through December 17th.

Times are 3:30 - 5:30 PM and 6:30 - 8:30 PM. Santa will have a small gift for each child. Please bring a camera and get your child's picture taken with Santa Claus. There is no charge to visit Santa.

Don't forget to bring Santa your wish list.

McAuley Christmas Concerts

'Tis the season for music and the Mother McAuley High School Music Department invites you to enjoy all the Christmas classics, old and new, at our annual concerts.

The Vocal Christmas Concerts featuring McAuley Choruses I, II, Advance Chorus and A Cappella Choir will be held on Sunday, December 12 at 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

McAuley alumnae are invited to join the students for the traditional singing of the Hallelujah Chorus. The Hallelujah Chorus will be sung at the end of the 2 p.m. concert and at the beginning of the 5 p.m. concert.

An Instrumental Christmas Concert featuring the McAuley String Ensemble and Symphonic Orchestra will be presented on Tuesday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.

All concerts will held in the McAuley Auditorium at 3737 W. 99th Street.

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Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124 Board Member Vacancy

Evergreen Park School District 124 Board of Education is sad to announce the resignation of Jim Flanagan, president of the board, effective November 29th, 2010. In his letter of resignation, Mr. Flanagan wrote, "I regret that I am unable to finish my term. I have personal and business commitments that will not make it possible for me to adequately perform my duties as a board member. I have been honored to have served on the board for over seven years and continue to be impressed with the dedication of the board, staff, and administration in providing a quality education to all students in Evergreen Park."

During his tenure on the board, Mr. Flanagan served as president for 5 1/2 years. His leadership has been instrumental in moving the district forward as it embraces the required changes and works through difficult economic times.

The members of the board of education wish Jim the best in the future and sincerely thank him for his commitment to the community.

Board Member Vacancy

Application Process

The Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124 Board of Education is currently seeking an applicant to fill the recently created school board vacancy. Applicants must be a United States citizen, at least 18 years of age, a resident of Evergreen Park for at least one year immediately preceding the appointment, and a registered voter.

To apply, submit a letter of intent no later than December 21, 2010 to:

Board of Education

Evergreen Park Elementary School District 124

9400 South Sawyer

Evergreen Park, IL 60805

Letters can also be emailed to the Board of Education through Jan Stanton at jwittleder@d124.org.

The term of this vacancy will end upon election of a successor in April 2011.

Concern Worldwide [U.S.] Inc.

The 2011 Woman of Concern Brigid Awards Luncheon Honors Three Extraordinary Women and their Outstanding Accomplishments

Concern Worldwide will hold its Annual Woman of Concern Brigid Awards luncheon on Friday, February 25, 2011 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Chicago Downtown Hotel, 1 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL. The 2011 Woman of Concern Brigid Awards luncheon honors three outstanding Chicagoland women for their exceptional achievements. A silent auction featuring national and local celebrities new and gently used handbags and wallets will also be a highlight. The funds raised from this event will support Concern Worldwide's Maternal and Child Health programs in Haiti, Rwanda and Malawi.

The 2011 Woman of Concern Brigid Awards luncheon this year recognizes three woman daily lives and work reflect justice, generosity and compassion. The honorees include Illinois Supreme Court Justice Anne Burke; Honorary Life Director of The Chicago Council of Global affairs, Patricia Blum Koldyke, and Terrie McDermott, the Executive Director of the Department of Woman's Justice Services. More then 700 guests annually attend this event that honors the significant accomplishments of three woman who reflect justice, generosity and compassion in their work and daily lives. Chairing the event this year will be Carol Deely and Susan Flynn.

Concern Worldwide was founded in 1968 and is non-governmental, international humanitarian organization committed to the relief, assistance and advancement of the most vulnerable people in the nation developed countries of the world. Concern Worldwide works in 28 of the world's poorest countries across Africa, Asia and the Caribbean, implementing emergency response programs and long-term development programs in the areas of education, health, livelihoods and HIV and AIDS. Concern Worldwide has saved countless lives, relieved suffering and provided opportunities for a better standard of living for millions of people. www.concernusa.org

2011 Woman of Concern Brigid Award Honorees

Anne M. Burke

Anne M. Burke is Supreme Court Justice, First District. She received her B.A. degree in education from DePaul University in 1976 and J.D. degree from IIT/Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1983. She was admitted to the Federal Court, Northern District of Illinois in 1983, the United States Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit in 1985, and certified for the Trial Bar, Federal District Court in 1987. In the same year, Governor James Thompson appointed her Judge to the Court of Claims and in 1991, she was reappointed by Governor Jim Edgar. Burke was the first woman to serve on the Illinois Court of Claims. In April 1994, she was appointed special counsel to the Governor for Child Welfare Services. In August 1995, she was appointed to the Appellate Court, First District. In 1996, she was elected to the Appellate Court First District, for a full term. Upon the retirement of Justice Mary Ann G. McMorrow in 2006, she was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court. She was elected to a full 10-year term in November of 2008.

Justice Burke has also chaired the Lay National Review Board of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops which investigates accusations of clerical sexual abuse in the Roman Catholic Church.

She is married to Alderman Edward M. Burke, and they are the parents of five children, Jennifer [Jim Murphy], Edward J. [Jackie], the late Emmett, Sarah, and Travis, as well as five grandchildren.

Patricia Blum Koldyke

Patricia Koldyke and her husband Mike founded Golden Apple Foundation with the concept that every child deserves an excellent teacher and that every excellent teacher deserves recognition. Since its inception in 1985, Golden Apple has grown into an institution that continues to recognize gifted teachers, and also prepares and strengthens teachers who make a critical difference in the lives of all children, with a special emphasis on those teaching children from disadvantaged schools.

In 2007, Patricia and Mike Koldyke established the Patricia Blum Koldyke Fellowship in Social Entrepreneurship at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, where Pat has served as a board member for more then 20 years. Through the Fellowship Mr. & Mrs. Koldyke acknowledge emerging leaders who have been recognized for their social entrepreneurship and continuing contributions to their communities.

Ms. Koldyke has served as an honorary co-chair, along with Maggie Daley, of the Woman in Global Development Forum to highlight the leadership role of woman in major development initiatives throughout the world.

Ms. Koldyke has four children and eight grandchildren.

Terrie L. McDermott

Terri McDermott is the former Executive Director of the Development of Woman's Justice Services. She established this department with former Cook County Sheriff Michael F. Sheehan in 1999 to promote and administrator the integrated model of substance abuse and mental health treatment program for woman offenders. Ms. McDermott designed three gender specific programs to address the underlying issues of incarcerated woman. These three programs include Mom's Program, Woman's Residential Program and Female Furlough Program, which successfully treat woman and give them a chance to be mothers and reunite with their families.

Among many groups, Ms McDermott is a member of the Illinois Public Health and Corrections Taskforce, Children of Prisoners, Salvation Army Corrections Board and Mental Health Courts Steering Committee.

Ms McDermott is a graduate of Chicago State University with a degree in education.

Concern Worldwide's Annual Woman of Concern Brigid Awards Luncheon will be held on Friday, February 25, 2011 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30p.m. at the Renaissance Chicago Downtown Hotel, 1 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL. For tickets, phone 312-431-8400 or visit www.concernusa.org.

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beyond ordinary

by J. Haymaker

Email comments: jeromerhaymaker@yahoo.com

Mark of the Beast! Because premonitions have happened in such a variety of ways I can't be certain if this is a premonition or just something that I figured out. The term 'mark of the beast' is familiar to any bible scholar. In the Book of the Revelation of John a monetary system is written and described as the 'mark of the beast'. The problem is that I think it is interpreted, (from what I have read), wrong. Here is why.

This is a monetary system where you need a numbered (bank account) in a financial institution to carry out business transactions. A physical mark in the hand or forehead is not needed. A debit card or the number of your credit card memorized by you will suffice. This is much more insidious than the requirement of a mark in the hand or forehead. Most of us already have a bank card or credit card.

Here is why it will be used. Ask any accountant or economist and they can tell you that when money sits still in your pocket or drawer, wherever, it performs no useful work. You feel secure, that's all. If the U.S. declared a new monetary system where it is in your bank account but available for use by the Federal Reserve, that would free up a huge resource that is unavailable otherwise.

If everything that you owned could be used 24 hours a day this would represent a giant increase in value to you. For example: Most of us have a car, house, or apartment and we are only in it a small portion of the day. If it could be rented out the rest of the day and still be available to us to use the rest of the day we would not have much to complain about. This situation exists to a small degree now. For example: My family relatives are former Chicago Police Officers. Their pension fund money has been borrowed by the City of Chicago. Interest has been promised for this loan by the city managers.

Most of the funds of the Federal Reserve is in numbered accounts and never becomes physical dollars but is still money. If none of the capital or U.S. dollars were in paper currency and could be used by the government from your or my bank account in return for interest, a lot of people would go along with this since many people's accounts receive no interest at all under the current bank system. The money would still be available for our use whenever we want but would be performing work when we were not using it for our own personal use.

Other reasons for this system will be to cut down corruption and crime. If you consider a system like this in place, drug dealers or any other criminals would find it very inconvenient. How could they carry on business when all the money could be traced from their illegal business to their criminal contacts? Criminals could not easily use the proceeds from their illicit activities. The police would find it very easy to trace the money in illegal transactions. Taxes on transactions could be more easily assessed.

In any case it would take a much more drastic economic situation for the general public to accept or allow this system to exist. We are now being set up for that crisis to occur with the current 'indebtedness' of the United States government. It will be announced that this is the only recourse to the crisis. When the public outcry over the economy rises to such a level that the government has no other recourse it will happen. Which country will do this first will be a historical note! This system could also be phased in gradually to more easily, gain widespread acceptance.

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LW Presents (L-R) Paul Amandes and Anne Hills star in Full Sky Productions' Chicago premiere of LOCAL WONDERS, a play with songs, at Chicago Dramatists, 1105 W. Chicago Avenue. The production previews November 27, opens December 2, and runs through January 9, 2011.

LW Anne and Paul Standing (L-R) Anne Hills and Paul Amandes star in Full Sky Productions' Chicago premiere of, LOCAL WONDERS, a play with songs, at Chicago Dramatists, 1105 W. Chicago Avenue. The production previews November 27, opens December 2, and runs through January 9, 2011.

LW Trio (L-R) Anne Hills, James Robinson Parran, and Paul Amandes of Full Sky Productions' Chicago premiere of LOCAL WONDERS, a play with songs, at Chicago Dramatists, 1105 W. Chicago Avenue. The production previews November 27, opens December 2, and runs through January 9, 2011.

"Local Wonders"

by Alan Bresloff

During the holiday season" we are treated to lots of stories that are holiday related in order to get us into the spirit and bring a little joy and happiness to our souls. Full Sky Productions, is presenting a play with songs, "Local Wonders" which will bring that joy to your sould without any mention of the holidays at all. Based on the book,"Local Wonders:Seasons in The Bohemian Alps" written by Ted Kooser, this is his story dealing with middle-age and what happens to us when we come up against the unexpected. Written by Virginia Smith(who also directed the show) and Paul Amandes (who also wrote the original music and lyrics) this is a warm story dealing with Ted's life from childhood to adulthood and his dealing with cancer when in his 60's. Amandes takes on the role of Ted and Kathleen, that of his wife Anne Hills. The only other member of this cast is James Robertson-Parran who handles the keyboards and sound effects. All of the other music is handled by Amandes and Hills (guitars, banjo, ukulele and harmonica).

Most of the ten songs are directly made up of t Kooser's poems. The action, for the most part takes place in Nebraska and when Ted takes us back to his childhood years. Ames,Iowa. For those of you unfamiliar with Kooser, he is a former U.S. Poet Laureate with some wonderful works. We learn that as a child he didn't really fit in. There is a great reference to this with a book called "Lentil" about a little boy that was an outcast, but because he could play the harmonica, during a welcome home parade while all the other band members were sucking air due to some heavy lemon sucking going on, he becomes a hero- the moral: You can 'accomplish anything if you can play the harmonica!'

As we travel on this journey into Kooser's life, we learn that once he hit middle age, a time where he should have been relaxing and just live out his years, on a visit to his dentist, it is discovered that he has cancer. During his treatment his entire life changes and while recovering, he finds that the stress is so great, he can no longer write. Faced with boredom, and avoidance of the sun, he walks each morning, sometimes with Kathleen, often alone. During these walks, he thinks about his life and how he became who and what he is. This is a journey down memory Lane for this couple as the think about their childhoods, the bittersweetness of parenthood, the loveliness of their home in Nebraska and the aging process, a journey that I enjoyed tremendously!.

This ninety minute (no intermission) is a wonderful warm and sweet journey that we are allowed to share through some wonderful folk music performed with heart and soul by Amandes and Hills. Hills, by the way is a wonderful musician with a great voice and a lot of acting ability. It was impossible not to fall in love with her portrayal of the character, Kathleen Amandes, brings a lot of charm to his Ted and together we see the chemistry that these characters shared. Robinson-Parran with his wonderful piano playing fills in all the gaps and of course, he will succeed (he also plays the harmonica)!

The set by Holly Windingstad, lighting by Douglas Smith and prop design by Zena Pance are the icing on the cake in this solid, heartwarming production that will have you leaving the theater with a small tear in your eye, but a great feeling in your heart. "Local Wonders" will continue at Chicago Dramatists located at 1105 W. Chicago Avenue (at Milwaukee/Ogden/Chicago intersection) through January 9th with performances as follows:

Thursdays at 7:30 pm, Friday and Saturday at 8 pm. Sundays at 3 and 7 pm.

Tickets range from $25-$30 with discounts for student and senior. For tickets call 630-457-1074 or visit www.brownpapertickets.com or you can e-mail fullskyproductions@gmail.com to learn more visit www.localwondersmusical.com

"Handel's Messiah Rocks"

by Alan Bresloff

It seems a pity that with the holidays still almost three weeks ago, a wonderful little 90 minute entertainment such as "Handel's Messiah Rocks" only plays for two days. They call this musical "A joyful noise", but honestly, I found it to be uplifting and in my opinion a wonderful way to get our youth to learn a little bible story. This bright and energetic production has three dominating performers. Mike Eldred (the Tenor), Ramona Keller and Marty Thomas (the Baritone) and a solid orchestra. In addition, they use two local chorus groups, one of high school age, the other a little older. In fact, the older chorus starts the show by running through the audience, main floor and balconies to bring every one's energy level up. It works!

The story is told in three sections- Part One: The Mystery of Faith- Part Two: The power of Love- Part three: The Hope for Peace. In total over 17 musical pieces and the audience participation "Hallelujah" which is inspiring no matter what your religious belief's are. It is truly a shame that we only had two days to get into a whole new way of hearing "The Messiah" and perhaps next year, they will bring the show in for just a little longer. While the Bank of America Theatre is a decent size for this show, we need to fill it and do more often allowing more Chicago theater patrons to partake of this wonderful holiday experience.

Watch for the 2011 edition and when you see it announced, contact Broadway In Chicago right away.

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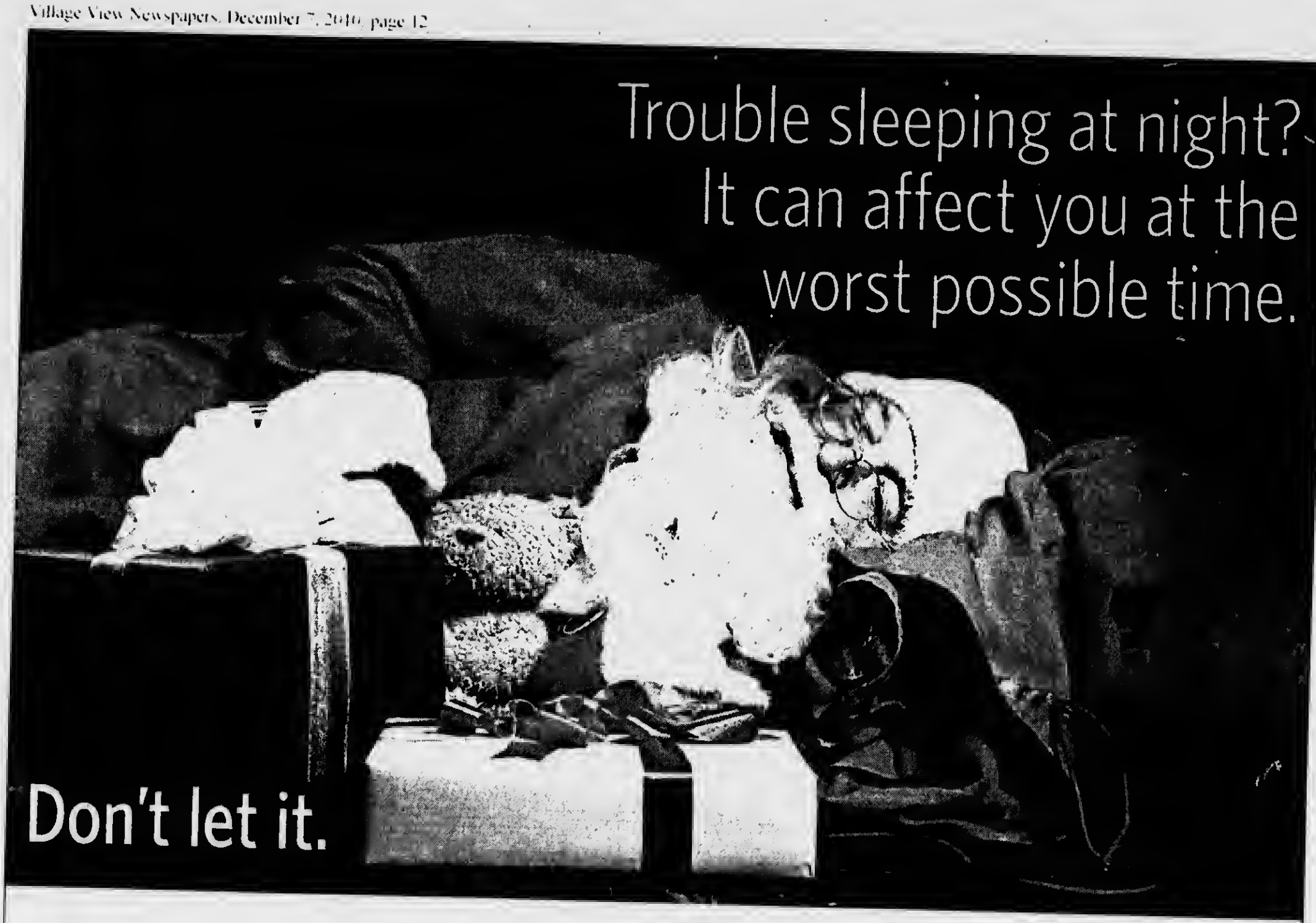

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Village View

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Volume 8 | Number 23 | December 7, 2010

Tinley Park Exercises Home Rule Authority To Issue 25 Million Dollars in General Obligation Bonds

by Ronald Ayers

Tinley Park exercised its home rule authority under section six (6) Article seven (7) of the Illinois Constitution to pass an ordinance that allows the village to issue up to $25 Million dollars in General Obligation Bonds. Ordinance 2010-O-046 an ordinance providing for the issuance of one or more series of General Obligation Bonds, and providing for the levy and collection of a direct annual tax for the payment of the principal and interest on the bonds was unanimously passed by the village board at its November 16, 2010 (11-16-2010) board meeting held in village hall 16250 Oak Park Avenue.

General Obligation Bonds (GOBs) are a common type of municipal bond used by local governments to pledge to levy a property tax to meet debt service requirements. Holders of GOBs have a right to compel a borrowing government to levy a property tax to satisfy an issuing governments obligations. Because Property owners are reluctant to risk losing their holdings due to unpaid property tax bills, credit agencies often consider GOBs to have strong credit quality and often assign them investment grade ratings.

According to the Illinois Municipal League if local property owners do not pay their property taxes on time in any given year, a government entity is required to increase its property tax rate by as much as is legally allowable in a following year to make up for any delinquencies. Speaking at the 11-16-2010 board meeting Trustee Michael H. Bettenhausen said monies from the bond issue will be used to finance such projects as:

The Tinley Park Convention Center

80th Avenue Commuter Train Station

Additional projects that could be debt financed and completed within 24 months of the issuance of the bonds.

Speaking before the Village Board at the 11-2-2010 board meeting, during which Bettenhausen delivered the first reading of the GOB Ordinance, Bettenhausen said: "The Village Board has identified alternate funding sources for these new projects and it is not expected to increase property taxes to our residents." Section eleven of the GOB ordinance: "Tax Levy; Abatements" calls for the "levy upon all the taxable property in the village… of a direct annual tax sufficient for the purpose of paying the interest on the bonds when and as the same falls due and to pay and discharge the principal" on the bonds "at maturity."

In a telephone interview with this reporter done Tuesday 11-19-2010, Village President Edward J. Zabrocki said that passage of the bond issue would not result in increased property taxes. "Tax Increment Financing (TIF) would be one alternate source that we could use to satisfy the funding on the projects outlined by Trustee Bettenhausen. "The TIF will be satisfied around 2017 or 2018," said Zabrocki. "Then if necessary, the funds going to the TIF would be used to fund the bond issue." The General Obligation Bond is our failsafe. If for some reason we defaulted on our bonds, then the tax levy in the General Obligation Bond would kick in," Said Zabrocki.

According to the home rule provisions of section six (6) of the Illinois Constitution, Tinley Park has the "power" to "incur debt payable from ad valorem" (Latin for according to value) tax receipts or from any other lawful source and maturing within forty (40) years from the time it is incurred, without prior referendum approval.

In other business the Tinley Park Village board passed various ordinances and resolutions.

Ordinance 2010-O-047 amending Title VII (7) Chapter 78 of the Tinley Park Municipal code was unanimously adopted. The ordinance was passed to minimize truck traffic along newly completed road on 183rd street by prohibiting truck traffic from making a left hand turn onto 183rd street from 183rd place for those trucks leaving the industrial park.

-A resolution authorizing an agreement between Tinley Park, Cook, Will counties and Montessano Capital Management, Inc approving the installation of a personal wireless antenna by T-Mobile on the roof of the building located at 16345 S. Harlem.

Adopted Resolution 2010-R-058 recognizing the outstanding service in the nine (9) school districts serving over 10,000 students in Tinley Park.

-Authorized an agreement with Fox Valley Systems to purchase replacement parts for the Village's wireless Fire Alarm Radio System in an amount not to exceed: $24,717.00.

Waived the competitive building process and awarded a 2010-2011 snow removal contract to Carlin Moran Landscapers in an amount not to exceed $40,000. Approved payment of outstanding bills in the amount of $1,305,515.35 as listed on the Vendor Board Approval Report dated November 5, and 12, 2010.

Hoe Down Country kicks dinner dance

Orland Township is sponsoring a Hoe Down Country Kicks Dinner Dance for seniors age 55 and over.

Ladies and Gentleman C'mon... Kick up your heels and have some fun at our first "Line Dancing" Dinner Dance! The dinner dance will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at the Orland Chateau, 14500 S. LaGrange Rd., Orland Park, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Tickets are necessary and may be purchased at the Orland Township office, 14807 S. Ravinia, Orland Park. Resident tickets can be purchased for $16.00 each on December 7, and non-resident tickets can be purchased for $21.00 each on December 21.

Ticket price includes a family style meal and Professional Line Dancer's Dee and Ray Ulrich accompanied by DJ Fun, Fun, Fun will lead the way! Door prizes and a 50-50 raffle will be offered. The Orland Township office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesday evenings until 6:00 p.m. For more information, call Marie Ryan, Senior Services at (708)403-4222.

Total Lipid Profile Testing at Orland Township

Orland Township is hosting Total Lipid Profile testing on January 20, 2011 at 14807 S. Ravinia Avenue from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Residents may have total cholesterol levels read, as well as triglycerides, LDL (bad cholesterol) and HDL cholesterol (good cholesterol).

The price of the test is $25.00, with proof of residency. Non-residents may also participate for $30.00. Glucose testing is available for an additional $5.00 for both residents and non-residents. An appointment is necessary and participants must bring proof of residency on the day of testing.

High cholesterol can cause a multitude of health problems, such as heart disease and heart attack so it is important to maintain healthy cholesterol levels to avoid these dangerous and life-threatening problems. By testing cholesterol levels regularly, higher levels are discovered sooner, rather than later and improvements can be made. Orland Township provides residents and non-residents the opportunity to monitor cholesterol levels in order to stay healthy and happy. To make an appointment, call (708) 403-4222.

Quarterly base charge for water and sewer use goes into effect on December 1

On Tuesday, November 23, the Oak Forest City Council approved an ordinance to establish a quarterly base charge for water and sewer use, effective December 1, 2010.

The quarterly fee, in addition to usage costs, will be $15 for single-family homes and commercial properties and $5 per unit for multi-residential buildings. As part of its decision, the council agreed to review the rate structure annually and reduce or eliminate it if the water and sewer fund is stable.

Although the City Council considered making adjustments to the usage rates, it opted for a quarterly base rate after reviewing the rate structures of 11 neighboring towns. The City of Oak Forest was the only town surveyed that did not charge a minimum usage and/or base charge. In addition, the City Council considered the fixed costs – $1.2 annually – associated with delivering water. "I think the council realized that adjusting the variable rate to address the revenue shortfall was unfair to the high volume users," explained Finance Director Colleen Julian.

"Charging a flat fee in addition to usage is a more equitable distribution of the costs and will help us maintain a quality water and sewer system."

The quarterly base rate will generate annual revenues exceeding $500,000 – ensuring that the water and sewer fund is self supporting and part of a balanced budget as required by the city's budget and revenue policies.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 23 | December 7, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Mayor Siegel honored by Toastmasters International

Toastmasters International District 30 proudly announces Mayor Eugene Siegel as the recipient for the 2010 Communication and Leadership Award.

District 30 is composed of four counties that are: Cook, Lake, McHenry and DuPage in Northern Illinois. This District traditionally recognizes a non-Toastmaster that has shown outstanding leadership and communication skills every year.

Honorable Mayor Siegel, who has dedicated himself to decades of outstanding service to his community, by developing growth, progress and security for its' citizens, was awarded the C&L Award at the District 30 2010 Fall Conference on November 6, 2010 in Countryside, IL. His award was presented to him at the banquet with over 400 members and guests in attendance, by Kyle Roti, DTM, the District Governor of District 30 Toastmasters.

Mayor Eugene Siegel is part of a highly respected list of individuals who have been recognized with this award since 1972. He joins an elite group of accomplished individuals such as Harry Porterfield, Eric Soderholm, Oscar Brown Jr., Chuck Swirski, W. Clement Stone, Irv Kupcinet, Bill Kurtis, Brig. General Walter J. Whitfield, Hon. Abraham Lincoln Marovitz, Hon. James Thompson, Dr. Preston Bradley and more.

Heroes sought to participate in headshaving events nationwide

Men, women and children baldly stand in solidarity with the 160,000 kids diagnosed with cancer each year while raising money to find pediatric cancer research

The St. Baldrick's Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising money to fund the most promising research to find cures for childhood cancers and give survivors long and healthy lives., has issued a lofty challenge to everyone who wants to help raise money for pediatric cancer research: Be a hero for kids with cancer by shaving your head in return for pledges of financial support from friends and family.

Participants find that shaving their head in solidarity with the approximately 160,000 children who are diagnosed with cancer each year and frequently lose their hair as a result of treatment, is a small sacrifice in comparison to what these children endure.

On March 5, 2011, as many as 100 men, women, boys and girls will brave the shave to help Conquer Kids' Cancer! The event will be held locally at Bobby McGee's, 10139 S. Harlem, with an estimated attendance of up to 3000 people. The head-shavings will commence at 2:00 PM. There will also be split the pot and other raffles with prizes from local and national supporters.

This is our fifth year organizing a St. Baldrick's event, and during the first four years, this single event has raised $73,705.00 and shaved over 250 heads! Our goal for this year is to raise $26,295.00 to bring our five year total to $100,000.00!

The St. Baldrick's Foundation makes grants to research institutions to find new cures for childhood cancer, and to find treatments to ensure a better quality of life for patients and survivors.

The Foundation funds research projects conducted by established pediatric cancer experts, as well as younger professionals who will be the experts of tomorrow. Funds also enable hundreds of local institutions to participate in national pediatric cancer clinical trials, offering the best available care for every child.

The St. Baldrick's Foundation is grateful to its many volunteers (bald or not!), donors and sponsors, including Allied World, etc.

For more information about St. Baldrick's, call 1-888-899-BALD or visit www.StBaldricks.org.

PADS asks Palos Heights for help for homeless

by Matt Mayer

Executive staff from the Chicago Heights inter-faith shelter made a presentation to the Palos Heights City Council at their November 16 meeting on behalf of the Public Action to Deliver Shelter (PADS), which was formed in 1990. They asked their residents to contribute $3 on their quarterly water bills to help fund operating costs for a future permanent homeless shelter to be located in a commercial development area, bounded by 167th Street, Cicero Avenue, Interstate Highway 80 and Pulaski Road. City officials would send out a notice to residents asking to choose to add $3 per quarter on their water bills.

The Village of Country Club Hills donated the site in the form of a 100-year free of charge lease. PADS has the money needed for the slated ground breaking in April for a multistory 75,000 sq. ft. permanent shelter, which would consist of 77 units, 34 one bedroom, 20 two bedroom and 23 studio units. The building will also contain space for administrative offices, a computer lab, a community room with a kitchen, an area for vocational training and laundry facilities.

While PADS has the necessary funds for construction, shelter officials are looking to area residents to help fund the operating costs of $409,000. The project is slated to be completed in the fall of 2012. The homeless agency currently operates emergency overnight homeless shelters in dozens of south suburban churches and synagogues as well as some day care centers and limited permanent housing for the homeless. The new facility would serve homeless families and individuals, domestic violence victims and returning vets. Since opening in 1990, PADS has offered shelter to 10,333 men, women and children and approximately 1,250 individuals annually.

Worth needs sales tax increase or go bankrupt

by Matt Mayer

Chief of police John Carpino resigned on Nov. 15. Lt Mark Meetsch was named acting chief of police. In light of the village's financial woes there is no immanent plan to name a permanent successor for Carpino.

Keller reiterated the budgets cuts the village has made, which include two police officers which was effective Nov. 29 also the elimination of the crossing guard program. "We began communicating with the school superintendent Dr. Rita Wojtylewski back in January to see if the school district would be willing to share a portion of the crossing guard program, which at that time was over $51,000, Keller said. Currently they pay $900 out of the $51,000. She said at the time the funds were not in her current budget and that she would look it over in the summer when they redo their budget. In addition, we communicated with her on two other occasions, Keller said.

"I also personally went and talked to the Superintendent in October regarding what may occur if the village referendum didn't pass on Nov. 2. A

We sent out letters stating that as of Nov. 29 we will not be able to support our crossing guard program. There was a recent school board meeting and they voted to support the program until the end of December. "A meeting was held at the junior high school in which Keller as well as several village officials attended to discuss the crossing guard program and explain the villages financial situation in regards to something we don't want to do but must do because of our financial situation", Keller said.

"The last thing you want to do is jeopardize the children's safety but when we are laying off police officers and five public works employees as well as other employees, it's unfortunate. However we will be laying off over 30 employees in order to keep these doors open next December. Otherwise these doors will be closed and I don't know who's going to take over," Keller said.

"However we do have some light at the end of the tunnel, we're proposing that we place a sales tax revenue of 1-percent on the April 5 election ballet. "Were hoping that it passes so we can get all our land off employees back and we can return some services to everybody. I can't tell you how important this referendum is. We have borrowed $1 million and if we don't pay this back the village will be bankrupt and will essentially shut down," Keller stated.

Village View

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Volume 4 | Number 23 | December 7, 2010

B-MAC EDITION

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Special use ordinances and Committee reports highlight Crestwood board meeting

by Ronald Ayers

Ordinances were passed by the Crestwood Village board during its November 18, 2010 meeting held at the Crestwood Civic Center 14025 S. Kostner that will allow two automobile firms to do business in the village.

The board unanimously approved special use ordinances for:

- 14001 S. Karlov to permit an automobile auction with supplemental detailing and repairs
- 4351 Midlothian Turnpike to permit operation of an auto transportation facility with auction and internet sales facility.

Trustee William Wagner gave a police activity report. Wagner said that for October, 2010, there were:

- 20 Crimes Against Persons
- 10 Crimes Against Property
- 53 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 949 Service Calls
- 25,547 Total miles driven by squads and jeeps.

Trustee James Fowler reported on twelve Water Department Activities. Three of the activities reported on were:

- Jetting four storm sewer lines
- Replacing five meters
- Locating thirty-seven requests for village utilities per J.U.L.I.E. dig notices.

Trustee William Wagner reporting for the Public Works Department said the Public Works Department

- Started ditch work at Crestwood Terrace and removed twenty one truck loads of dirt
- Finished painting and varnishing windows at Biela Center
- Swept streets throughout entire village and collected sixteen dump trucks of leaves and debris

The board unanimously approved the payment of the following items:

- General Obligation warrants of: $260,440.24
- Water Department warrants of: $123,047.37
- Dial-a-Ride warrants of: $1,689.72

Civil unions

by Ronald Ayers

After about an hour of discussion, the Illinois House of Representatives passed legislation legalizing civil unions during its Tuesday November 30, 2010 evening session.

The Illinois Religious Freedom and Civil Union Act, SB1716 passed by a vote of 61 to 52. The Senate is expected to also pass the bill, and Governor Pat Quinn has said he will sign it. Supporters and opponents had been working up until Tues. to line up votes on whether the state should offer some kind of legal recognition to same-sex couples.

Civil Unions would provide recognition of gay couples and give them some of the same benefits automatically available to married couples—the right to visit a sick partner in the hospital and make decisions about their medical care, for instance. But it would not be marriage, which is still defined by Illinois law as a union of one man and one woman. Illinois civil unions would not be recognized in some states or by the federal government for tax purposes. They would grant gay couples some of the same legal rights that come with marriage. Opponents argue civil unions are just same-sex marriage by a different name. The Human Rights Campaign, (HRC) the nation's leading lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender civil rights group, praised the Illinois House for passing the bill. HRC President Joe Solmonese said in a written statement, "Civil Unions are not marriage, but they provide important benefits and are a step in the right direction."

Trustee James Quinn

Trustee Daniel Godfrey

Quinn V.S. Godfrey in a verbal slug fest over Alsip Citizen Participation

by Ronald Ayers

Alsip Trustees James Quinn and Daniel Godfrey took center ring during the Village's November 15, 2010 board meeting as the two elected pugilist slugged it out in a debate over the amendment of a village ordinance that now includes a new section on citizen participation.

Quinn and Godfrey sparred over the wording to be included in an amendment to the Village's Municipal Code that provides for an "opportunity for citizens to address village officials at public meetings." The new section of ordinance 2010-11-4 was passed 4-2 by the Village board in response to an amendment to the Illinois Open Meetings Act which goes into effect on January 1, 2011. Public Act 96-1473 requires a public body to permit any person wishing to do so an opportunity to address public officials under rules established by a public body.

Alsip's amended Chapter 2 of its Municipal Code lays out in detail how Village Officials are to conduct board meetings, and how the public is to be allowed to participate in public meetings and question elected officials. At issue between Quinn and Godfrey was how section 2-75, item (d) "Persons wishing to speak" of the ordinance was to be worded. Item (d) states that: "Persons wishing to speak during the public forum portion of a village board or committee meeting shall sign in before the start of the meeting stating their name, address and agenda item on which they wish to speak."

Trustee Godfrey led with a right jab on the issue making a motion that the ordinance be approved as written. Quinn's motion was seconded by Trustee John Shapiro. Trustee Quinn counter-punched with a left hook with a motion to amend Godfrey's motion by deleting the verbiage: "and provide their current address". "Do we really need citizens to give their address?" asked Quinn. "I think it's a deterrent to participation if people are asked to give their address at a public meeting." Godfrey sidestepped Quinn's left hook and delivered a sharp left jab to Quinn's midsection saying: "In forty years no one has refused to give their address at a public meeting." Trustee Quinn retaliated with a slashing uppercut to Godfrey's chin and asked for a vote from the board on his motion to amend. Village attorney Todd K. Hayden became the referee in the debate when a trustee questioned the parliamentary correctness of voting on Quinn's motion to amend while Godfrey's motion to accept with a second by Shapiro had not been voted on. Attorney Hayden recommended that a vote be taken on Quinn's motion to amend Godfrey's original motion to accept the ordinance as written.

On the roll call vote, Trustees Quinn and McGreal voted "Aye" to amend. Trustees Shapiro, Godfrey and Michaels voted "Nay." Quinn's motion to delete the words "and provide their current address" failed. On the motion to accept Godfrey's original motion to approve the Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 as written, Trustees Shapiro, Godfrey and Michaels voted "Aye". Trustees Quinn and McGreal voted "Nay" Godfrey's motion carried. Ordinance 2010-11-4 became law. Trustee Steven A. Daddona was absent. To insure parliamentary correctness, Attorney Hayden suggested that Mayor Patrick E. Kitching vote on ordinance 2010-11-4 to insure that a quorum was represented in the vote.

Mayor Kitching provided the coup de grace that put trustee Quinn's "no address" amendment down for the count by voting "Aye" to accept the ordinance as written.

In other matters the board:

- Approved a resolution of intent to resurface various streets in the village
- Approved a resolution of intent to reconstruct 128th street
- Approved a resolution declaring the first week of December, 2010 as "Crossing Guard Appreciation Week"
- Accepted the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Motor Fuel Tax allotment for October, 2010 of $34,787.73
- Accepted a proposal from Kane, McKenna Capital, Inc to provide "Financial Advice" services related to the 123rd Place and Cicero TIF District project for a fee not to exceed $10,000.
- Approved holiday pay for the Fire Department for fiscal year 2010-2011 of $36,900.61.
- Granted approval for the Police Department to hire a candidate from within the village's American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) union for the position of Records Clerk to replace a retiring employee.
- The board unanimously approved Accounts Payable for November 15, 2010 in the amount of $621,599.34.

Village View

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SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 37 | Number 12 | December 21, 2010

Burbank, Evergreen Park, Hickory Hills, Justice, Oak Lawn

Oak Lawn will have World Trade memorial

By Matt Mayer

Trustee Robert Streit was Mayor Pro Tem at the Dec 14 Oak Lawn Board of Trustees meeting. Village Manager Larry Deetjen presented an update on the quiet zone. As of midnight today it is now a federal law, which states that trains operating on the Metra Norfolk Southern Line cannot activate their horns unless there is an imminent emergency, Deetjen said.

"We've had a lot of discussion regarding this and it's taken a long time to get to where we are. This was a goal the mayor and the village board put in place in 2005", Deetjen said.

Deetjen then thanked Trustees Streit and Quinlan who joined him two years ago in traveling to Congressman Lipinski office to press this issue. And then this year Trustee's Phelan and Streit accompanied me to Washington where we met with the Federal Railroad Administration. "Thanks to our legislative consultant and the hard work of Congressmen Lipinski, we now have a federal law in place", Deetjen said.

Deetjen also spoke about September 11, 2001 when terrorists attacked our country and our World Trade Center in New York City sustained a loss of many lives. The country has responded and has begun a project which takes components of the World Trade Center specifically steel beams along with other components and create sculptures. The Mayor and the Board of Trustees in Oak Lawn entered into an agreement with the New York and New Jersey Port Authority in October, Deetjen said.

"Two steel beams from the WTC will be placed in storage while the Academy of Art University in San Francisco begins working on a project which will use these two beams to create a sculpture in our community to commemorate those who gave their lives", Deetjen said.

"The academy has formed a program, with a new class beginning in 2011. Students at the expense of the university will travel to the village to visit the Metra Train Station where we intend to erect this sculpture." Deetjen said.

"The students will then return to San Francisco and begin working in a laboratory to take rods and other material to develop a sculpture which will connect the two steal beams that will be mounted in the ground. We also have the cooperation of the Equipment Operators Union Local 150 in Chicago that represents our public works employees as well as the cooperation of our police department and firefighters along with our local Rotary Club, which will be working to raise money. We also have a pledge of $3,000 from the university", Deetjen said.

Following the meeting, two large steel beams which were original components of the World Trade Center were loaded on a truck early Thursday morning and were escorted by police and fire departments throughout the country from Ground Zero to Oak Lawn. The Village of Oak Lawn logo along with the logo's of the Oak Lawn Police and the Fire Department, the Public Works Department, Local 150, and the Rotary Club were displayed in a flag stretching across the flat bed truck. The truck arrived at the west yard of Beatty Lumber on 52nd Avenue on Friday at 1 p.m. A blog has been set up to follow the project along at http://monumentaloaklawn.com. Updates will be posted regularly as the project continues.

Evergreen Park presents can Legion post

By Matt Mayer

Mayor James Sexton announced at the Dec.6 Evergreen Park Board of Trustees meeting that the police department has begun their Walk the Talk Program. Officers will be out on all main streets stopping and getting out of the car and going in to talk to the merchants. "It's a way for our officers and merchants to get to know one another. The Walk and Talk Program is in effect now through Jan 1.

Sexton also extended a great big thanks to all that participated in Fourth Annual Dickens Victorian Christmas and also to the Pizza Man, Barraco's Pizza, Oberweis Dairy and Art Lynn who donated their products or services for the event. The village also extended their condolences to the family of a long time employee, Conrad Mills, who recently passed away of a heart attack. A memorial service was held in his honor on Dec 10 at the Community Center at 3450 W. 97th Street.

Information Officer Mary Keane presented a $2,000 check on behalf of the Village to Cmdr. William Murray of the American Legion Post # 852. This amount is a portion of the proceeds from the Annual Classic Car Show and will be used for the demolition of the old memorial wall. The project is slated to begin in April and hopefully the new wall will be completed for the declaration on Memorial Day. The existing plaques will be incorporated into the new wall, Murray said.

A request from Chief of Police Mike Saunders to purchase a Ford Expedition through the state purchase program for $26,044.00 was approved as well as a request to proclaim December as Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) prevention month.

Burbank's Titans Are Champs

By Julie Schabes Dvells

Titan Widget Football Team was honored at the City Council meeting. They are the Super Bowl XXVII Champions!!! They beat the Alsip Falcons 48 – 20. This is the first time in 19 years that the Titans have won a Super Bowl. Congratulations to our young athletic stars! Another proud achievement for Burbank. The Titan Cheerleaders won 2nd Place at the Illinois Cheerleading Association!

A federal lawsuit against the City of Burbank has been filed by a Chicago Church hoping to relocate to the Old Barn Restaurant at 8100 S. Parkside Ave. The lawsuit accuses Burbank of violating the 1st and 14th amendments. Officials at Burbank's City Hall claim the city would lose $220,000 a year in taxes. Burbank, as well as many local communities, desperately needs revenue to meet their budgets especially during this difficult economy.

Public Works would like to thank residents for promptly reporting when streetlights are out. To report this, call (708)924-7390 and they will immediately have crews out for repairs. They can be reached Monday-Friday 9:00am to 4:30 p.m.

The Burbank Police Department is noting numerous theft reports of purses and wallets from vehicles in the parking lot of stores along Cicero Avenue. The Police continue to investigate and monitor the area with their cameras. Shoppers are warned to be extra careful to not leave valuables in their unattended vehicles and to report anyone acting suspicious right away. The community can put a halt to these crimes if we all pull together.

Congratulations to Gary Arvin! He has been promoted from the position of Firefighter Paramedic to Engineer!

Justice Plows Through Frustration

By Julie Schabes Dvells

The Village has tips to reduce frustration in snowplowing of the mailboxes and driveways. They suggest shoveling or snow-blowing the snow from your driveway, mailbox or sidewalk onto your lawn rather than into the street. This way, when the plow truck comes, it won't push the snow back into your driveway. Your patience and understanding are greatly appreciated.

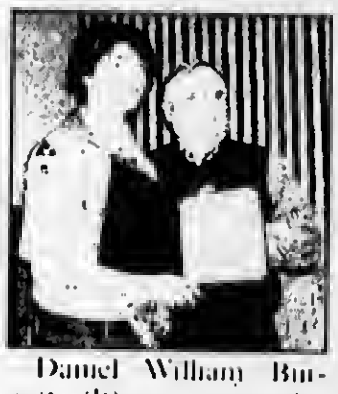
Trustee McGee reported that the village is on track for road improvement construction for the Roberts Park Community. The village approved payments of $459,748 for the roadwork. "The project is moving forward as scheduled and we went out and spoke with many of the homeowners and residents there. I know they are very enthusiastic in seeing those roads repaired and brought up to par. This area was long neglected. It is a priority", McGee said.

The movie playing Wednesday, December 29th at the Justice Library is "Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole". This movie is about when a young owl is abducted by an evil Owl army, he must escape with newfound friends to seek out the legendary Guardians to stop the menace. Permission Slips are always required to attend Movie Nights. Pick one up when you sign up for the movie.

Don't get too cooped up this winter. The Justice Public Library has Winter Break Activities: Board Games & Puzzles - Monday, 12/27 - 1:00-2:00 PM. Movie - Wednesday, 12/29. Wii Games - Thursday, 12/30 - 3:00-4:00 PM. Call (708)496-1790.

Tinley Park Honors Veterans! Accepts Resignation of Bettenhausen! Swears In New Trustee! Rewards Senior Citizen and Eagle Scout

Tinley Park Village President Edward J. Zabrocki presents Madeline Lindstrom with a plaque "For outstanding service to Tinley Park's Senior Citizen Commission." The plaque was presented during the December 7, 2010 Village Board meeting.



Daniel William Burnette (II) accepts resolution 2010-R50 from Village President Edward J. Zabrocki (III. Burnett was honored for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

(Photos for the Village View by Ronald Ayers)

By Ronald Ayers

Tinley Park's December 7, 2010 Village Hall 16820 Oak Park brimmed with citizens as the board honored World War II veterans, accepted the resignation of a Trustee, swore in a new Trustee, and presented plaques of recognition to senior citizens and an Eagle Scout.

Village President Edward J. Zabrocki opened the meeting by offering up a "Pearl Harbor Memorial Prayer."

"On December seventh in the attack on Pearl Harbor Twenty four hundred were killed, thirteen hundred wounded and about one thousand people missing.

"Because of their dedication and duty we still enjoy the freedoms we inherited from our forefathers." Said Zabrocki.

Mayor Zabrocki then announced that Trustee Michael Bettenhausen had resigned.

Michael Bettenhausen served as Village Trustee since 1998. He served on the Finance and Economic Development Committee. Bettenhausen was heavily involved with the Village's expansion of the Tinley Park Convention Center and the construction of the 80th street train station.

Michael Bettenhausen is General Manager of one of the longest established businesses in Tinley Park, Bettenhausen Motor Sales which carries the Chrysler, Jeep, and Dodge product lines.

Bettenhausen's resignation is reportedly due to an expansion of his business. Press Release Newswire reported in its November 23, 2010 edition that Bettenhausen Automotive will become one of the first Fiat dealerships in the United States since 1984.

Village Clerk Patrick E. Rea delivered the oath of office to Terrence "TJ" Grady. Grady is a retired police officer with more than thirty years of service to Tinley Park. Bettenhausen was to seek re-election in April, 2011. If he wishes to continue as a trustee, Grady will need to gather about 500 signatures for his nomination papers before the December 20, 2010 filing deadline.

Tinley Park resident Madeline Lindstrom received a plaque from Mayor Zabrocki "Expressing our sincere appreciation for outstanding service to the Village of Tinley Park's Senior Service Commission since its inception August, 1995."

The Village board passed resolution 2010-R50 recognizing Daniel William Burnette. Burnette attained the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award the National Council of Boy Scouts of America can bestow.

In other business the Village Board adopted:

- Ordinance 2010-O-057 Granting a Variance for a garage at 7427 W. 175th Street.
- Ordinance 2010-O-049 Amending Title XI Chapter 110 and 121 of the Tinley Park Municipal Code in regard to Taxicabs, Limousines, Limo Vans and Replica Trolleys.

The board unanimously adopted the following Consent Agenda items:

- Approved payment to William Randolph, Inc. in the amount of $2,009,979.10 for construction services at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Funds to be paid from the 2009A Bond Fund.
- Approved payment of outstanding bills in the amount of $7,715,944.73 as listed on the Vendor Board Approval Report dated November 24, and December 3, 2010.

Plasma Arc, or No Plasma Arc, That Is The Question?

By Ronald Ayers

Rumor, gossip and conspiracy theories have a way of creeping into the public consciousness and assuming a life of its own.

Elvis lives!

President Barack Obama is a Muslim!

The Illuminati control the world!

Whether or not there will be a Plasma Arc Gasification (PAG) plant in Blue Island is one such rumor that lives like Elvis.

A PAG for Blue Island was raised to the level of both rumor and conspiracy when Blue Island Mayor Donald L. Peloquin reportedly put forward the idea of creating the Lincoln County Power Company (LCPC).

From what I can gather, the LCPC's is to serve as an efficient cost effective garbage waste disposal system for Blue Island, and an income generator of electricity.

My research indicates that PAG is a waste conversion process that produces no emissions, releases no harmful chemicals into the ground, and all products of the process are completely reusable. Electricity generation using the synthetic gas product is reportedly as clean as electricity generation using natural gas —the gold standard of clean energy.

Here in lies the allure of PAG that might have caused Mayor Peloquin to have an epiphany that went something like this:

"What if I can 'collect Blue Island's garbage, eliminate the cost of hauling garbage to a landfill, dispose of the garbage without polluting the environment, and turn that garbage into electricity that Blue Island can sell at wholesale prices to say Commonwealth Edison? Eureka!"

From garbage comes electricity, comes money.

Isn't that just a special ideal?

PAG is the kind of "Green Business" concept that sends tingles up the spine of left wing, progressive environmentalist.

PAG is a concept that causes "Robber Barron" to drool at the mouth.

PAG is an ideal that can cause the altruistic to feel they have attained the kingdom of heaven if they can assist poor communities such as Blue Island to improve their financial condition by using such a technology.

PAG may be promising, but it is not yet ready for prime time. The technology and process is reportedly too expensive. To date, there are ZERO PAG plants up and running and making a profit in the United States.

"Plasma Arc Gasification as a method of waste disposal might be as far off as two to three decades." Said Adam Flynn. Flynn is an Engineer for the Forelight firm. Forelight has undertaken the task of identifying just the right kind of waste disposal technology that would solve Blue Island's waste disposal problem, generate revenue, and create jobs. Forelight will share their findings with Blue Island and Alsip officials, and the community at large.

Will there be a Plasma Arc plant in Blue Island?

I put this question to Mayor Peloquin in a brief one on one interview at the December 14, 2010 Blue Island Board Meeting.

"It's dead." Said Peloquin. "Plasma Arc is dead."

"Is it dead because the technology poses some environmental threat, or dead because you can't raise the money to build the project?" I asked.

"It's dead because the group I'm working with (Forelight) is telling me it's not workable." Said Peloquin.

So, there you have it. Plasma Arc is dead. Long live Plasma Arc.

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Owner Editor Publisher Annette Dixon
Published on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Press releases and ads are to be e-mailed to vvnew@sbcglobal.net

We have found that through the years of publishing the readers are interested in general information and also local happenings within their community. Therefore because we are fully electronic, we will not be accepting faxed or mailed news releases.

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As it is for most of us, independent living represents personal success for Derrick Hudson

Furniture Donations Have Helped Sertoma Centre Fulfill Their Mission

Alsip, IL December 15, 2010. It is always wonderful to hear about a happy ending, especially around the holidays. Little did a family know when they donated their used furniture to Sertoma Centre's Good as New Thrift Store, just how much happiness they would provide.

All proceeds from Good as New go towards underwriting programs for individuals with disabilities at one of Sertoma's three day program facilities. In the current economy that alone is a welcome blessing. However in November, when one family donated dining room, living room and kitchen furnishing, they made a home for individuals with disabilities just starting out for the first time in their own apartment.

In addition to the ten residential homes and three day facilities, Sertoma Centre staff supports about two dozen other individuals who are capable of living on their own, with some supervision. It fulfills our mission to provide opportunities that empower individuals with disabilities to achieve personal success. Just like it is for most of us, independent living is a major achievement for Derrick Hudson. Having his own apartment, with beautiful furniture and a large screen TV became an early Christmas wish come true.

To make other wishes come true and keep our store operating at full speed, we ask you to please continue donating, especially furniture to our Good as New Store. Large items can be picked up by calling Karey Wentz, store manager at 708-481-5627. If you are purchasing new furniture, downsizing and would like to have your old furniture be put to very good use, please consider Good as New. We will provide you with a receipt for tax purposes.

We welcome you to shop, volunteer your time, or donate new and gently used items at Good as New thrift store located at 4331 Lincoln Highway, Matteson, IL. Please contact Thrift Store Manager, Karey Wentz at 708-481-5627 if you have any questions. Store hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm Tuesday and Thursday, 10 am - 7 pm. Sertoma Centre, Inc. is a nationally-accredited, not-for-profit agency that provides services to over 625 individuals with developmental, physical and emotional disabilities, and/or mental illness. For more information, to schedule a tour, volunteer or to make a donation, please contact Melanie Jones, Director of Advancement and Communications, Sertoma Centre, 4343 West 123rd Street, Alsip, IL 60803 (708) 730-6206 www.sertomacentre.org

iApp Software Development course now offered at Moraine Valley

Join the race to create the latest applications for Apple® devices by enrolling in Moraine Valley Community College's iApp Software Development course being offered for the first time in the spring 2011 semester. The credit MIS 200-Special Topics class will be on Mondays from 6 to 9:40 p.m.

The course is an introduction to creating software applications for the iPhone®, iPod touch®, and iPad® devices. Students will use Objective-C®, the iPhone® SDK, Cocoa®, and several other essential frameworks to develop applications. Related topics such as object-oriented design paradigms, model-view-controller patterns, and software development using Mac OS X® will be covered. After completing the course students will gain an understanding of the Objective-C® language, become familiar with the Apple® development tools, use core frameworks for the iPhone®/iPod touch®/iPad®, and use design patterns to build mobile applications.

Students registering for this course should have completed Moraine Valley's MIS-105 Programming Principles class or have a programming background in C/C++ and/or Objective-C®, however, experience in any procedural or object-oriented, event-driven language would be sufficient. Development software for the course will be available for free.

This course is not affiliated with, endorsed by, or otherwise approved by Apple Inc. For more information about the course, contact Larry Langellier by phone at (708) 974-5627 or by e-mail at Langellier@moramevalley.edu.

In-district tuition is $100 per credit hour. Students who have applied to the college can register in the Registration Office, located in the S Building on campus, 9000 W. College Pkwy., Palos Hills, by calling (708) 974-2110 (TTY for the hearing impaired 708-974-9558) or online at moramevalley.edu.

Information on all credit and noncredit classes is available in the spring 2011 class schedule or online at moramevalley.edu.

Benefit to be Held for Southwest Suburban Man

"We Got This' A Benefit for Ken Martin" will be held on Jan. 21, 2011, at 115 Bourbon Street in Merrionette Park.

Martin, 28, was diagnosed this past summer with Stage 4 adrenal gland cancer, a rare form of cancer that affects one out of a million people. Surgery, chemotherapy, radiation and experimental treatments have placed a financial burden on the family, and proceeds from the benefit will help to pay medical bills.

Tickets for the benefit are $25 and include a dinner buffet, beer, wine, non-alcoholic beverages and live entertainment by Tumbling Dice. The benefit will also feature a silent auction, raffles and prizes.

Martin, a former resident of Chicago Ridge, graduated from Tinley Junior High School, Richards High School and St. Xavier University. He resides in Hometown with his wife Lynn Petronski Martin, a former resident of Burbank and a graduate of St. Albert the Great School, Queen of Peace High School, Eastern Illinois University and St. Xavier University.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Melissa Fogarty Small at 708-543-4946 or visit www.wegotthisbenefit.com.

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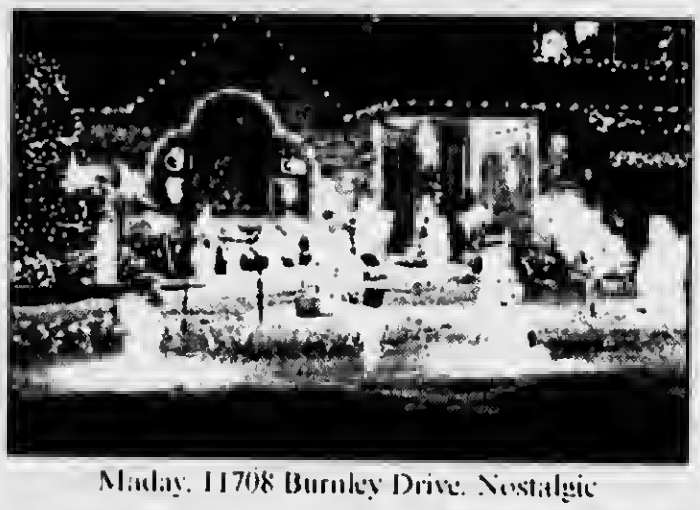

Maday, 11708 Burnley Drive, Nostalgic

Pattin, 8711 W. 163rd St., Clark Griswold

Village of Orland Park Announces Christmas House Decorating Contest Winners

The Village of Orland Park held its third Christmas House Decorating Contest which was open to all residents of single family homes within the corporate limits of the village. Residents could choose the category they would like to compete. The categories chosen were: Nostalgic: Most old fashioned, best "reminds me of my childhood" display; Clark Griswold: Excessive use of outdoor lighting and decorations; Best Door/Entry: Most welcoming/best decorated entry way. The entries were judged and one winner was chosen in each category.

The 2101 winners are:

Nostalgic: Jim and Donna Maday, 11708 Burnley Drive, Long Run Creek subdivision

Clark Griswold: Glen Pattin, 8711 W. 163rd St., Fernway Subdivision

Best Door/Entry: Mary and Al McDonald, 16710 Muirfield Drive, Muirfield subdivison

Trustee Kathy Fenton said, "With so many houses in the village decorated during the holidays, we thought it would be fun to have people enter the contest and be recognized for their efforts." She added, "All of the houses entered are worth driving to see and I hope it encourages more people to enter the contest next year."

For those who would like to see all of the houses entered in the contest, the addresses and subdivisions are: 17107 Ashwood Drive, Brook Hills; 17127 Hill Creek Court, Brook Hills; 10523 Owen Drive, Eagle Ridge Estates I; 14601 Poplar Ct., 14350 Maychff Drive, Maychff Estates; 10261 Hawthorne Drive; and 15708 Shire Drive, Equestrian Place.

"We're very grateful to Bright Ideas, Inc. for co-sponsoring this contest," Trustee Fenton said. "Bright Ideas generously donated a four foot pre-lit Christmas wreath and two seven foot pre-lit trees for the winners to choose from," she added.

The House Decorating Contest winners will be recognized at the February 7, 2011 Board of Trustees meeting. Everyone who entered the contest will receive a Certificate of Recognition.

Midlothian Applies for Two Hundred Thousand Dollar Model Communities Grant

By Ronald Ayers

Midlothian has applied for a two hundred thousand dollar grant that will "help make health the easier choice" for the Midlothian community.

Announcement of the grant submission was made during the December 8, 2010 Midlothian board meeting held in Village Hall 14801 South Pulaski.

Trustee Karen Kreis, chairman of Community Development said the grant application was a collaboration between the Village, the Park District, and School District 228.

The "Model Communities" program is sponsored by the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH), in partnership with the Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago.

CCDPH will award up to $4 million in grant funding to local governments, community organizations and school districts who are interested in changing policy to make it easier for suburban Cook County residents to live "healthy, active lives."

Successful applicants will be awarded a one-time funding amount between $25,000 and $200,000 to implement projects from February, 2011 to February, 2012.

"The grant money would help us to focus on obesity," said Kreis in a telephone interview with this reporter 12-15-10. "The grant will help us to get people out of their homes and cars and out bicycling and walking."

Kreis said the "Model Communities" grant money will not allow Midlothian to build bicycle paths. However, the Village could use the funds to buy signage that would point people to existing paths.

"We can use the grant money to put up bike racks on the street, and around Bremen high school," said Kreis. "The bike racks will allow our kids to ride their bicycles to school then have a place to lock their bikes up."

According to Kreis, the "Model Communities" Grant also promotes the eating of healthy food and beverages by promoting nutrition standards and procurement policies for food served to children in government run or funded programs."

The Model Communities Grant could also be used to

- Develop a Farm-to-School program or a school garden at the school or district level
- Promote walking and biking through a "complete streets" approach in planning and, or zoning
- Assist worksites to establish policies to promote breastfeeding

While Trustee Kreis did much of the leg work to get the grant submitted in a timely fashion, she gives much of the credit for the writing of the grant to the Executive Director of the Midlothian Park District Evelyn Gleason.

"Evelyn played a big role in writing the grant," said Trustee Kreis. "She has a lot of experience with grant writing. I couldn't have put the grant together without her."

Kreis said the Village will know in February if it is a grant recipient.

"Then everything would get busy around here," said Kreis "because we'd have to use the funds up in a year."

In other business

- The Village Board unanimously passed an ordinance "Authorizing The Execution of the Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association (IMLRMA) Minimum/Maximum Contribution Agreement."

ILMRMA is a fee based risk management program that helps municipalities prevent losses and to minimize the cost of losses that occur with their police officers, fire fighters, and other municipal employees.

Midlothian's contribution amount is not defined in the ordinance. The agreement with IMLRMA is for one year beginning December 31, 2010, and ending December 31, 2011.

Merry Christmas To All

From the Village of Evergreen Park

Mayor: James J. Sexton
Clerk: Cathy Aparo
Trustees:
Jerry Bosch, Carol Kyle,
Mark Manzullo, Jim Mc Quillan,
Mark Phelan, Norbert Smith

Things To Do In Evergreen Park in December

Saturday, December 28th, 2010, Evergreen Park Library invites all ages to attend the "Fancy Nancy Spendiferous Christmas Extravaganza" at 10:30am. Come dressed in your finest outfit and get ready for some fance holiday fun!

Friday, December 24th, 2010 Village Hall will close at noon in observance of Christmas.

Evergreen Park Youth Commission Winter Break Brunswick Bowling Trip Tuesday December 28th, 2010 from 10:30am to 1:00pm, at $13 per child. Price includes transportation, 2 games of bowling, shoe rental, and a pizza lunch. For 3rd-8th graders.

Evergreen Park Youth Commission Open Gym for 4th - 8th graders Monday December 27th through Thursday Dec. 30th 12:00-2:00pm at the Activity Center. $3 per child per day.

Evergreen Park Rec. Dept. still has tickets to "Wicked" on January 20th, 2011 at the Cadillac Theatre. Call 708- 229-3373 for info.

Most Holy Redeemer School Advisory Board will be hosting a Candlelight Bowl at Bleckers on Friday, Jan. 14th, 2011. "Bowling For Books" Call 708-424-2778 for more information.

THE ICE RINK IS OPEN

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January 2,3,4, 17

February 10, 18, 21, 2011.

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Adult Residents $5, Non-Residents $6

Seniors Residents $3, Non-Residents $4

Hockey 6-8PM

Fees for 2 Hours Hockey Residents $6, Non-Residents $7

December 24, 25, and January 1

Open Skate 12-2PM

Hockey 2-4PM

The village of Crestwood starts with a half of a million dollar settlement for claims paid

Residents who sued the village of Crestwood over receiving tainted well water when they believed they were getting Lake Michigan water will get $500,000 as part of a settlement.

The settlement, which was finalized Thursday, pertains only to water bills paid by current and former residents and village business owners. Other claims, such as wrongful death and personal injury lawsuits, are still pending. The settlement establishes a $500,000 fund that will pay out claims, amounting to a partial refund of water bills dating from Jan. 1, 1985, to Sept. 1, 2007. Those dates reflect the time the village was found to have tapped the contaminated well.

Larry Drury, the attorney for the plaintiffs in the class-action suit, said the deadline to file claims was September and that a claims adjustor will determine the amount of each payout based on length of residency and water purchases.

Attorneys said about 1,000 claims were filed in connection with the suit. Caesar Tabet, the attorney representing the village, said the settlement was an attempt to stem the village's mounting legal bills. The village admitted no wrongdoing in the settlement. "This settlement represents an effort by the village and its officials to properly manage the resources of the village and its taxpayers and minimize future expense," Tabet said. The settlement "reflects an effort to stop litigation expenses and conserve the resources of the village and its taxpayers."

The settlement also includes other relief for residents in the form of a two-year freeze on fees for vehicle stickers, business licenses and garbage collection. Drury said there will be a three-year freeze on administrative expenses associated with the purchase of Lake Michigan water from Alsip as well as three years of independent testing of water. The settlement is worth about $2.8 million, Drury said, which includes attorneys fees. The village informed residents and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency it was only using Lake Michigan water after 1985, when it had discovered the well had been tainted by vinyl chloride, a known carcinogen. But it was discovered by regulators that the village had been using the well to provide as much as 20 percent of water to the village from 1985 to 2007.

Crestwood officials have maintained that use of the well's water never posed a health risk because it was diluted with Lake Michigan water. However, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has determined there is no safe level of exposure to vinyl chloride, which can damage the liver and nervous system. Besides other suits filed against the village in relation to use of the well water, Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan has also filed suit against the village.

Retirement Senior Living Nursing Homes, Insurance Company's, Senior Citizens Centers, Classes for Seniors, Dr's Offices, Medical Clinics, Dentists, Lab Work Offices, Optical Centers, call Village View for our 2011 Senior Issues Dates. For more details about our 4 Free Newspapers, Call 312-624-8996.

Caption for Dist 130 Kylie Smith and Ruth Fowler (from left to right): Fourth grader Kylie Smith takes a lunch break with her grandma, Ruth Fowler.

Grandparents Day draws a crowd at Whittier School in Blue Island

On a chilly early December afternoon, grandparents of Whittier School students in Blue Island braved the cold to attend class and have lunch with their grandchildren. Coinciding with the school's Book Fair, grandparents were welcomed into the school from 11 am to 1 pm and were able to observe in their grandchild's classroom and eat lunch and socialize with their grandchild in the school's gymnasium. Grandparents Day has been a tradition at Whittier School for the past three years and some teachers even planned for more group work this day to involve the grandparents in the learning process.

"We wanted to get more community involvement and have a day that's special for grandparents. A lot of students are being raised by their grandparents and this day is an opportunity for grandparents to participate and talk to their grandchildren about what goes on in school," said Joseph Tallitto, principal of Whittier School.

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of: Alsip, Blue Island, Crestwood and Robbins.

Happy Holidays!

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Maria High School to bring back water polo, swimming programs

Maria High School Athletic Director Andrew Walsh has announced that Maria is excited to bring back its water polo program, beginning this spring. The team will practice at St. Rita High School and will play all road games this season. Maria will also bring back its swimming team, beginning with the 2011 season.

The Mystics, which had four straight State Final appearances and three Sectional titles from 1998-2001, will be a member of the powerful Metro Catholic Aquatics Conference (MCAC). The MCAC has won all but one of the State Championships sponsored by the IHSA.

Maria's water polo team will be led by Head Coach Nicole Pawlak, a 2001 graduate of Mother McAuley High School. Ms. Pawlak grew up in the Midway area and learned to play at Cline Park, under former Maria Coach Eric Fisher. She later played at Ridge Park, with Frank Mulerone and Terry McShane as her coaches.

Ms. Pawlak attended Iona College in New Rochelle, New York, where she was a scholarship member of the Gaels NCAA Division I swimming and water polo teams and spent summers playing for the New York Athletic Club. She earned her B.A. in Psychology with a minor in Marketing and later added an M.B.A. in Marketing and Management.

Ms. Pawlak has spent the last two years as an assistant water polo coach at Loyola Academy in Wilmette, helping lead the Ramblers to a 4th place trophy in 2009. She also works for the Chicago Park District as a head water polo coach and is the Midwest coordinator and girls-18-and-under coach for USA Water Polo's Olympic Development Program, which aims to identify potential U.S. National Team members throughout the country. She currently plays for the Chicago Apostles Club Team, based out of UIC.

Mr. Andrew Walsh will be the Mystics assistant coach this year. Mr. Walsh is also from Chicago's South Side, having grown up in Beverly and having played at Ridge Park and Mt. Carmel High School. Mr. Walsh has a B.A. in History and an M.S. in Sport Management. **Editor Note:** Village View Newspaper would like to extend their very best wishes for the new season for water polo.

Oak Lawn Library celebrates their new programs

Online Language Lessons

The Oak Lawn Public Library, 5300 W. 95th St., now offers a free online language resource for those interested in learning to speak French, Spanish, German, Mandarin Chinese or English for Spanish speakers (ESL). Access to Powerspeak Languages is free to everyone inside the library. However, Oak Lawn residents may access this online product via the library's web site (www.oaklawnlibrary.org) with their Oak Lawn library card. Some features include:

• Interactive learning with scored online activities, exercises, lessons and games that you may save and continue later.

• Activities that incorporate an adventure story containing graphics, audio, video and music.

• Voice-recognition software so you can see how your pronunciation matches the pronunciation of native speakers.

Registration Opens for Children's Programs at Library

The Oak Lawn Public Library Youth Services Department will open registration for their Winter 2011 Children's Program Series on Sunday, January 2. Preference is given to Oak Lawn residents and students of Oak Lawn schools. Each child's library card must be presented at registration.

This season's offerings include: a variety of storytimes for children age six months through age eight, including international sessions spoken in Polish, Spanish and Arabic; "Read to Rover," a monthly program that gives young readers age seven and up a chance to practice reading aloud to a registered therapy dog; monthly nature programs for first through fifth graders; a chess club for students in third through tenth grade;

"The Write Stuff," a monthly afterschool program for budding writers in third through fifth grade; family movies shown on school holidays; reading incentive programs for pre-readers and young students; teen game nights, movies, and the Junior Friends of the Library volunteer group for students in sixth through tenth grade; and several family programs, including a magician, a Candy Land Valentine's Day Party and an interactive storyteller performance with games and live animals.

For more information, call 708-422-4990 or visit www.oaklawnlibrary.org.

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Caption for photo Dist 130 Art Exhibition (from left to right): Sandra Wilks, Executive Director of Community Relations and Marketing at MetroSouth Medical Center, second grader Nahomi Nahara Saldana, and Dr. Raymond Lank, Superintendent of Cook County School District 130, take a photo break during the opening reception held in MetroSouth Medical Center's cafeteria

School District 130 and MetroSouth Medical Center Team up for Art Exhibition

The cafeteria at MetroSouth Medical Center in Blue Island is now home to some colorful new visitors...artwork created by Cook County School District 130 students. On Monday, Dec. 6, students, parents, administrators of School District 130 and staff at MetroSouth Medical Center gathered for an opening reception to celebrate the works of the young artists that will be on permanent display in the hospital's cafeteria. Students from 10 schools across the District created 17 pieces of artwork that now adorn the walls of the cafeteria, all of which were graciously framed by MetroSouth Medical Center. Guests visiting the cafeteria were treated to delicious appetizers provided by the hospital while they took in the ambiance of the exhibition. Every piece of artwork on display has one common theme, food, as art teachers kept the location of the exhibition in mind when working with their students on this special project.

The collaboration between School District 130 and MetroSouth Medical Center began almost a year ago as Alison Rich, an art teacher at Kerr Middle School in Blue Island, came up with the idea to have student artwork incorporated into a hospital setting after hearing a story on National Public Radio about how hospitals are having displays with children's art to cheer up the surroundings. "The parents are the ones who get the most out of it because they are worried and upset while they are there. It gave me the idea and I contacted MetroSouth. The Fine Arts Department of School District 130 is always trying to find more ways to make connections between our students' art and the community," said Rich.

Rich worked closely with Timothy Stacy, Director of Food and Nutrition at MetroSouth Medical Center, in order to bring the student artwork into the hospital. "The arts are often under funded and under appreciated and any public performance or display opportunity is a chance for these students to feel that their art is valued and can impact the world. By helping all of them spread their wings we are helping create the future," said Stacy. In addition to Stacy's role in making this art exhibition come to life, various departments at MetroSouth Medical Center including Maintenance, Community Relations, and Food and Nutrition devoted their efforts in bringing this student art exhibit to fruition.

"It's so empowering for students to have their art displayed in public and MetroSouth is so kind to support us, generously frame the art at no cost to us or our art budgets, and be so enthusiastic about this project," said Rich.

The new exhibit is open to the public 24/7 and visitors to the hospital can take time away from the stresses of a medical situation by taking in the artistic visions created by the students of School District 130.

Cook County School District 130 serves nearly 4,100 students at thirteen school sites. The district serves portions of the communities of Alsip, Blue Island, Crestwood and Robbins.

Brother Rice's National Honor Society strive to serve others

The National Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. The National Honor Society not only recognizes students academically, but also in terms of leadership, service and character.

Brother Rice's chapter of the National Honor Society follows a similar set of standards. Moderated by Denis Bergstedt, Brother Rice's chapter has 200 members who are nominated and approved for membership by the faculty council. Sophomores, juniors and seniors with a 3.5 GPA are eligible to apply for membership.

Even though the national chapter GPA requirement for membership is 3.0, Brother Rice has set their standard at 3.5. In addition to the academic requirements, Brother Rice's NHS members also participate in a number of service and leadership opportunities throughout the school and community.

Each class has a set task during the school year.

"I have learned from helping others through our service projects," Brother Rice NHS Special Event Coordinator Connor Fitzgerald '11 (St. John Fisher) said. "Our emphasis on helping others not only benefits the people we are helping, but will also prepare me for future endeavors."

Brother Rice's NHS members also work together as tour leaders at the annual Open Houses, and also as mentors at freshman orientation where the Big BRO/Little BRO was introduced this past August.

Members also take part in BROS, the Brother Rice Outreach and Service program. Brother Rice NHS President, Ned Rooney '11 (St. John Fisher) said, "I'm extremely happy to be part of this organization. Although the tasks can be demanding at times, I find working in our community rewarding."

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beyond ordinary

by J. Haymaker

Email comments: jeromehaymaker@yahoo.com

Run

My premonitions sometimes leave no time for thought and this story is about one of these times. I was working in San Diego at the time, as a taxi driver. The hours were till late in the evening. I had been parking my vehicle in a residential neighborhood because it had been broken into on several occasions, while parked near the yard where the taxis are kept by the company.

On this particular evening, I took a different route back to where my car was parked. I thought that by varying the path back it would diminish the odds of someone waiting to jump me. I should have stayed off the main road. The walk up the hill showed my pace; this probably was a deliberate reason for where this happened.

As I walked up the sidewalk along my way, I was passing some buildings. Just then I had a premonition consisting of one word, "Run". I immediately took this spiritual advice and began running up the hill. To my surprise, I could hear someone running behind me. I arrived at the corner intersection not knowing how close behind, my pursuer was to me. A car was parked not far from the corner and I headed toward it as fast as I could run. I quickly decided to circle the car, since I felt that only one person was chasing me. After a couple of times around the car I found myself on the 'opposite side of the car', from my 'would be' attacker.

Since driving a taxi can be a dangerous job, I carried a knife for protection. I reached for my knife and opened it with an audible click (in the silence of the night)...It could have been the cocking of a gun, from the perspective of the assailant. I shouted that I was going to stab him if he got anywhere close to me. At this point, I heard the sound of a weapon like a pipe or club drop on the concrete and he took off running as fast as he could, away from me!

Apparently the threat of my defense was enough to dissuade him from his plan of attack. It took me awhile to calm down from this encounter. Even if I didn't have a knife in my possession a bluff may have worked as well. I think the audible metallic 'click' that he heard was enough to get his attention that he was in for trouble, if he kept on trying to rob me. Attackers like him, don't want a fair fight. I am grateful to have had the 'warning premonition' to run when I did. 'Praise the Lord for that'!

Tinley Park Chamber sponsored a luncheon at Wingate by Wyndham recently

by Annette Dixon

Recently I was invited to the Wingate by Wyndham hotel at 18421 North Creek Drive, Tinley Park. I must say that this hotel offered more in the way of room size for the same price, without discounts, than I recently received at a Holiday Express in Ft. Atkinson, WI with discounts.

It has the ammenities that most hotels have, but the newly decorated lobby and rooms make you feel at home.

Many invitations are coming this year and the opportunity to use a first class hotel may be necessary. Check out their website www.wingatehotels.com or you can call them at 708-532-9300.

Don't forget the Glenwood Oaks Rib & Chop House for your Holiday Catering. For those who frequent their restaurant know how wonderful this family owned restaurant is and how their customers keep returning.

I had the opportunity to try their food at a catering event sponsored by the Tinley Park Chamber at the Wingate Hotel.

Some of the other sponsors were Heaven's Florist in Tinley and Daniels Printing in Oak Forest.

We wish All a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday

Village View Publisher and would like to thank each one of our readers who became a customer of our advertisers. This is truly a gift to us.

It is because of you, the reader, who spends the money with our advertisers, that this paper still exists.

I have worked for this paper when Vina O'Malley was Publisher in 1974, as a sales person. After a college education, I couldn't find a job, so I purchased Village View in 1983, and have never regretted it. Being shown by my predecessor, dedication to a business does pay off.

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Thank you, Annette Dixon

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Annette's reviews and top selection for the Holidays

Lookingglass Theatre Company announces the second extension of the World Premiere of **Peter Pan** (A Play), adapted from the books by J.M. Barrie and directed by Amanda Dehnert for an additional three weeks, through January 23, 2011, at Lookingglass Theatre Company, located inside Chicago's historic Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave. at Pearson.

This is a great production for the children over the age of 12 due to nature of violence in the production, of course, it is at the discretion of the parents. To buy tickets at www.lookingglasstheatre.org or by phone at 312-337-0665.

Another favorite is **The Child, The Story of the First Christmas.** This Fireside Production given by the Klopete Family, who believe in putting Jesus Christ back into Christmas presents music by Danny Hamilton, book and lyrics and storyteller by Gary Richardson.

The Fireside Theatre is the first to receive this show. It was written especially for The Fireside by the creative team behind The Rock & the Rabbi, The Witnesses. This new show allows us to see the birth of The Child through the eyes of Joseph, Mary's husband. This show will thrill your soul and deepen your appreciation of Christmas.

The Fireside Dinner Theatre, 1131 Janesville Ave., Fort Atkinson, WI. 1-800-477-9505 or go to FiresideTheatre.com

I was privileged to receive an invitation to Goodman Theatre's 10th Anniversary and to honor Mayor Richard M Daley and Mrs. Maggie Daley.

While celebrating 10 years in the North Loop Theatre District, Goodman Theatre is a major cultural, educational and economic pillar in Chicago.

Mayor Daley was honored for his courage to revitilize the theatre district and his interest in the arts, Mrs Daley was honored for her involvement in the arts and the education for after school events and programs for children.

Mayor Daley also recognized Goodman Theatre as it celebrated their 10 years in its new facility

Goodman is announcing it's 33rd season of **A Christmas Carol.** As many of those who have seen this production before, likely would want to see it repeatedly. This is the best Christmas Classic of all times. Of course the best performances were giving again this year by Ron Rains, as Bob Cratchit, and so many other performers returned again this year.

John Judd has performed at the Goodman in several plays and is well known throughout the city. He did a magnificent job as Ebenezer Scrooge.

Tickets start at $25 and can be purchased by calling 312-443-3800, or at the box office 170 North Dearborn.

December 3rd and 4th was **Handel's Messiah Rocks** at the Bank of America.

This was an unusual performance of Handel's Messiah. I guess I knew what I was going to and enjoyed every minute of it.

While observing the crowd, it appeared that the people who where there for Gospel Singing were really enjoying the performance. Others who didn't know exactly what they were about to see, where quite confused, but at least stayed for the entire performance

As they say, this performance really rocked. Don't miss it when it comes to Chicago once again.

The Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 East Congress Parkway, Chicago will present **The Nutcracker** on December 10th through the 26th.

The Joffrey Ballet is happy to have Harris Bank as the presenting sponsor of the 2010 production of Robert Joffrey's The Nutcracker. A wonderland of toys along with dancing snowflakes make for an eye opening spectacular performance of the Joffrey Ballet artists. The musical score of Tchaikovsky will be provided by the Chicago Sinfonietta Please remember to order your ticket early.

The Four or Us by Itamar Moses at the Wit Theatre was great.

David and Benjamin seem to reverse their success career roles. David is the Novelist and Benjamin is the writer. They spar about their life and their successes.

The lives of David and Benjamin are told through their meeting throughout the years as friends. Their friendship is hopefully exemplified not only as a novelist and a writer, but truly as friends. These two people were continually searching as the end of the play implies for a real relationship with one another as friends only

Usman Ally and Colin Geraghty show a true understanding of one another and were outstanding in their dialogues. Jeremy Wechsler is the artistic director of Theatre Wit and certainly doing a fantastic job.

Steppenwolf Theatre Company had the guts to come out with an Edward Albee's play **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?**

I was surprised that Steppenwolf would consider this play for this time of the year, but it really worked well. The audience was in awe by the most popular dysfunctional couple. It was literally enjoyable watching two people tear each other down, bring each other up to tear each other down again.

Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton made the movie famous in 1964 but Tracy Letts and Amy Morton were simply magnificent. Their own personal character presentation out shone the famous film couple.

In the theatre industry, it does take a full cast and crew to put an exceptional piece together.

Thanks to Pam MacKinnon, Director brought out some highlights of the play to give it that little twinkle and many times, I was caught up in the game.

There are only a few times I could see a play twice in a row before it leaves Chicago to go to Broadway

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? is just that play.

I'm amazed at the intensity of Tracy Letts and Amy Morton with Carrie Coon and Madison Dirks, for it certainly wasn't an easy task memorizing the lines for this play. They are just too good to be true. Kudoos to the production team for Edward Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? They are Todd Rosenthalk, (sets), Nan Cibula-Jenkins (costumes), Allen Lee Hughes (lights), and Rob Milburn and Michael Bodeen (sound). Malcolm Ewen is the stage manager an Deb Styer is the assistant stage manager.

George, Martha, Honey, and Nick, how can you forget them. It is a three hour production with two intermissions, but it really moves quickly.

This play runs until February 13, 2011, Tuesdays through Sundays at 7:30 pm. Ticket prices are $20 - $75, half price rush tickets are available one hour before each show. Steppenwolf Theatre Company is located at 1650 North Halsted Street and the numbers 312-335-1650

George Keating, Emily Leahy, and Anna Hammonds. Photo by Trademan Photography

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play at the Pheasant Run Resort playing until December 26.

Noble Fool Theatrical soon to be Fox Valley Repertory in 2011 presents a retelling of a classic American film radio style. This is a must for Christmas plays only because for those who remember radio, you will love it.

Ticket prices are $29.50 on Fridays and $39.50 on Wednesday and Thursday performances. Dinner show packages are available from $49.50. For tickets call the Pheasant Run Box Office at 630-584-6342 or visit www.ticketmaster.com or www.noblefool.org

Miracle on 34th Street at Porchlight Music Theatre presented an exhilarating stage performance of enthusiastic actors. Our southside famous actor, Jim Sherman was Santa in the play. It was great seeing him once again on stage.

This play goes through January 2nd and the prices of tickets are $40 and discounts for seniors. Tickets may be purchased through the Stage 773 box office at 773-327-5252 or at www.stage773.com.

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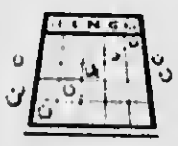

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• Protect me. Tool kits, emergency kits and quality flashlights are all gifts that people remember.

• Carry me. One sensible bag will travel everywhere, from the supermarket to the beach to the library. And don't forget everyone still needs a nice duffel bag.

A leading promotional items vendor—Branders.com—suggests that you keep the logo subtle and the usefulness of the gift obvious.

For more ideas and information, visit www.branders.com or call (877) 272-6337.

Easy And Edible

Create Beautiful Blueberry Gifts

(NAPSA) - Looking for the perfect gift? Stop looking and start making! A personal gift you create is always appreciated, whether it's for a holiday present, a warm welcome to a new neighbor, or a thank you for a hostess or teacher.

Just about anyone on your list would love to receive a sweet box of Blueberry-Chocolate Bursts! And who would guess that these two-ingredient goodies are so simple to make. Choose dark, milk or white chocolate to cover blueberries. For an extra special gift, put the box of chocolates in a napkin-lined basket and add a bottle of sparkling wine or cider.

Delight your cookie-loving friends with Blueberry-Oatmeal Cookies! Make your favorite oatmeal cookie recipe and stir a cup each of dried blueberries and white chocolate chips into the dough. Layer the baked cookies in a pretty tin lined with colored foil.

Looking for an even easier-to-make gift that's guaranteed to appeal to kids and adults? How about Blueberry Party Mix! Simply toss in a large bowl one cup each of dried blueberries, toasted nuts, thin pretzel sticks (broken into pieces) and unsweetened crunchy cereal. Spoon the mix into jars or clear bags.

Go to www.blueberry-council.org to find many more recipes and to get inspired with ways to add blueberries to gifts and menus for you, family and friends.

BLUEBERRY-CHOCOLATE BURSTS

2 cups (12-ounce bag) semi-sweet, milk or white chocolate chips

1 cup frozen blueberries, not thawed

Line 24 mini-muffin cups with mini-cupcake papers. In a microwave-safe bowl, warm the chocolate at 50% power for 40 seconds. Stir the chips well and repeat several times, warming and stirring the chocolate until just melted. In to each cupcake paper, spoon 1/2 teaspoon melted chocolate. Arrange 3 or 4 blueberries on chocolate. Spread about 1 teaspoon chocolate over each, covering all blueberries completely. If chocolate thickens, return bowl to microwave for 3 or 4 seconds and stir.) Refrigerate, covered, until chocolate is firm, about 15 minutes. Enjoy or refrigerate in airtight container up to 3 days.

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Chicago Ridge Public Library Holiday Hours

The Chicago Ridge Public Library (10400 S. Oxford) will be closed on Friday, December 24th and Saturday, December 25th. The library will reopen on Sunday, December 26th at 1:00 p.m. Call the library at 423-7753 if you have any questions. Visit our website, www.chicagoridgelib.us for the latest information.

Comfort Corner

Footwear with a rechargeable heating system are an effective way to keep toes nice and toasty.

Four Tips To Keep You Warm On Colder Days

(NAPSA)-It's important to stay active, whatever the season, so don't let colder days discourage you.

Here are a few tips to help keep you warm when you venture out:

1. Cover your head but don't forget neck and ears. Keep your ears warm with a cap, earplugs or ear warmers.

2. Get some light gloves. Make sure they are waterproof gloves so ice and water can't seep in to chill you.

Also, make sure the gloves have a good grip, so you don't have to take them off to do things outside. If it's really cold, you can put some mittens on over your gloves or a liner in them.

3. Dress in layers and make the layer closest to your skin wool or polyester. Cotton or silk is good at absorbing moisture and if you work up a sweat, you could get chilled.

In extreme climates, you might start with a layer or two of underwear to be topped with wool sweaters, fleece pants and jackets, plus a windproof shell. Layers should be loose enough to leave room for air so you lock in heat.

To keep toes nice and toasty, use footwear with a rechargeable heating system. Boar from Wenger Footwear not only comes with a rechargeable heating system but offers waterproofing technology, making it impenetrable in cold, wet conditions.

Weighing only 20 ounces, the product allows for three temperature settings and offers up to 10 hours of heating. Recharging takes about two to three hours.

Other features include Thinsulate insulation, PosiStep outsoles (which provide enhanced traction) and Zip Light lacing.

The product also features OutDry, the state of the art in waterproofing technology. Unlike other waterproofing systems, which use a bootie that acts like a sock lining, this waterproof membrane is laminated directly to the outer layer of the shoe, so there is no water penetration.

For more information, visit www.wengerna.com.

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FAR SOUTH EDITION

Volume 8 | Number 24 | December 21, 2010

Oak Forest, Orland Park, Tinley Park

Terrence "TJ" Grady (D) takes the oath of office from Tinley Park Village Clerk Patrick E. Rea (D) during the December 7, 2010 board meeting. Grady was sworn in as a trustee to fill the vacancy left by Michael Bettenhausen's resignation. (Photo for the Village View by Ronald Ayers)

Tinley Park Poised To Levy 23 Million Dollar Property Tax

By Ronald Ayers

Tinley Park officials are poised to levy a 23 Million Dollar tax against all taxable property in the Village for the current fiscal year beginning on the first of May 2010, and ending on the thirtieth day of April 2011.

Announcement of the proposed tax levy was made during the December 7, 2010 board meeting held in the Tinley Park Village Hall 16250 Oak Park.

Ordinance 2010-O-050 Levies a tax of $23,545,568, against all taxable property in the Village.

"This represents a 3.2 % increase over the previous year's extension in total dollars," said Trustee David G. Seaman, Chairman of the Budget, Audit, and Administration Committee.

Seaman undertook the first reading of six (6) ordinances (Ordinances 2010-O-051 through 2010-O-056) concerning individual tax levies that comprise the 23 million total levy. The ordinances also detail the $4,277,933 in abatements the village will use to reduce the tax burden on individual Tinley Park households.

In summary the abatement ordinances are:

Abatement Ordinance	2010-O-051	2010-O-052	2010-O-053
Bond Issue & Purpose	2002 Refunding	2002 Library	2003 Stormwater & Sanitary
Levy Required	14,050.	206,741.75	758,325.
Amount Abated	14,050	150,000	751,325
Net Levy	0.00	556,741.75	0.00
Source of Funds For Abatement	25,197 Water & Sewer & 853 Tax Bond Stabilization	150,000 Surplus Capital Projects	578,922 Water & Sewer 255,998 Stormwater Mgmt 148,435 Surplus Capital Projects

2010-O-054	2010-O-055	2010-O-056	Total:
2008 Refunding (Conv Ctr	2009 Refunding	2009A (BAB) Conv Ctr	
604,037.50	1,099,620	1,986,900	5,384,695.25
604,037.50	741,620	1,986,900.	4,277,932.50
0.00	358,000	0.00	906,743.75
Oak Park Ave TIF fund # 1	171,226, Water & Sewer 274,019 Tax Bond Stabilization 104,375 Surplus Capital Projects	Oak Park Ave TIF # 1	

"If these funds were not abated," said Seaman "the total required levy would be $27,823,501, and would represent an increase of 22%."

Seaman said Tinley Park's portion of the levy amounts to $17,994,724. The Tinley Park Library portion of the levy amounts to $5,550,844.

"Since the levy increase is less than 5 % of the prior year's extended levy, "A Truth in Taxation Notice" (Black Box) and Public Hearing are not required," said Seaman.

Tinley Park's tax levy and abatement program has been in operation for twenty-nine (29) years according to a printed statement released at the 12-7-10 board meeting.

According to the printed statement, the Village's required levies to pay outstanding bonds and interest are being reduced by some $4.3 million, which translates into reduced property taxes.

"We believe that earmarking certain revenues each year to pay our bonds helps to keep our property taxes lower, and is a better practice than raising taxes and then giving rebates," said Village President Edward Zabrocki. "That money should stay where it belongs from the beginning – with our residents."

Adoption of the tax levy, and rebate ordinances are expected to occur at the Village Board's December 21, 2010 meeting.

Oak Forest Recognizes WWII Veteran's Photography

By Julie Schabes Dvells

Proclamation No. 2010-12-0126P recognizing Henry van Westrop for his outstanding accomplishments as a photographer and his commitment to Oak Forest was approved. Henry van Westrop's career began 75 years ago when he served in World War II in the 33rd Infantry photographing combats. In 1944, he received a Bronze Star from General P.W. Clarkson. He has taught at Prairie State and Moraine Valley Community college for instruction in Airbrushing Photography Techniques. Since moving to Oak Forest in 1970, he continues to show dedication to the City by sharing his talents.

Since there's sufficient funds from the TIF, Ordinance 2010-12-0317O to abate certain taxes for the fiscal year beginning on the first day of May, 2010 and ending on the thirtieth day of April, 2011 for Series 2008B Bonds has been approved.

Additionally, there appears to be sufficient funds for improvements of the water and sewer infrastructure. Due to this, Ordinance 2010-12-0318O to abate certain taxes for the fiscal year beginning on the first day of May, 2010 and ending on the thirtieth day of April, 2011 for Series 2008A and 2009A Bonds has been approved.

The city held its annual toy drive to benefit the Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest Foundation from 12/6 to 12/17. These kind donations will brighten the holidays for many kids, however continued help throughout the year is still needed. For more information please visit http://www.treasurechest.org or call (708)687-4050.

Ordinance 2010-12-0319O to abate certain taxes for the fiscal year beginning on the first day of May, 2010 and ending on the thirtieth day of April, 2011 for Series 2008B and 2009B Bonds was also approved at the City Council Meeting. This is issued for Gateway Development, 159th & Cicero. Since the TIF provided enough funds, it was agreed to abate these taxes to help the taxpayers.

Lots of progress has already been made with renovating El Morro Park, located at 155th & Arroyo Drive. The Tennis Court will be removed for expanded parking. This removal will also make this corner more appealing with landscaping. So far, the fencing and Tennis Courts have been removed. The path to the shelter, Mini Amphitheater and Skating area is being removed. The dirt is being recycled by placing it at the South end of the park for the sled hill. The large dugout area just North of the Concession Building is for the storm water detention area. Sewing, plumbing and electrical are included as well.

Don't let your kids feel housebound during their Christmas Break. Perhaps they'd enjoy participating in the "Fun & Games Day" at the Park District? The day includes playing favorite board games such as Guess Who, Jr. Monopoly, Memory and SO much more! They are welcome to bring their favorite board games as well! Additional fun playing backyard games like freeze tag, kickball, and some relay races. Bring a sack lunch. For ages 5-10 yrs at The Central Park Building, 15601 S. Central Ave. $23.00 Res./$30.00 Non-Res. 10:00-2:00 p.m.

Police Chief Greg Anderson explained that the cameras for the traffic lights at 159th & Cicero, and 167th & Cicero meet the guidelines by IDOT. Ordinance No. 2010-12-0316O amending Section 70.07 of the Oak Forest Municipal Code concerning the Automated Traffic Law Enforcement System was approved. However, Alderman Simmon is wholeheartedly against the cameras and feels it is an invasion of privacy.

The Acorn Public Library District has begun the initial phase of its remodeling and renovation. This project will include a two-story addition on the northwest corner of the building, fresh paint, new carpeting, and relocating the central entrance to the south side of the Library.

Alderman Nancy Hallinger complimented the wonderful improvements at the Community Center. She was amazed at the cleanliness during her family holiday party there. She noted that the kitchen is beautiful, and is impressed with the bright new lights and parking lot. Her only concern was the Christmas Tree seemed ready to retire. Alderman Paul Wechet kindly offered to donate a Christmas Tree.

Village View

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SOUTH SUBURBAN EDITION

Volume 11 | Number 24 | December 21, 2010

Chicago Ridge, Worth, Palos Hills, Palos Park, Palos Heights

Worth strives to avert bankruptcy

By Matt Mayer

In a telephone interview with Worth Mayor Randy Keller pertaining to the Dec 7 Worth Board of Trustees meeting, he reiterated the need for passage of the 1-percent sale tax revenue referendum on the April 5, 2011 election ballet. The village has borrowed $1 million and if this note is not paid back by December 31, 2011 the village will then be bankrupt and essentially will shut down.

As Keller said at the Nov. 3 Board of Trustees meeting, the village must reduce their operating expenses by $600,000 to $700,000 in order to continue operating. He outlined the measures the village has taken to strive to achieve this goal, which consisted of additional layoffs of four public works employees and reducing the remaining employees to 32 hours per week. Another cost saving measure is if an employee is called to work on a weekend, they will not get paid overtime since they are working less than a 40-hour workweek, Keller said.

The additional measures come on the heals of previous cost cutting measures which included laying off two clerical employees and eliminating the village collectors position which was held by Village Clerk Bonnie Price. The leaf disposal program was also discontinued.

The village has had financial woes for years however never to this magnitude. Village officials are hopeful that the 1-percent sales tax revenue referendum on the April 5 election ballet passes so they can call the laid off employees back and restore some services to all residents.

Keller also said that Village Trustee Lezley Zulsaty had turned in her resignation at the meeting. She wanted to stay on until the home rule referendum passed. However the referendum was voted down. Keller appointed Zulsaty in May 2009 after winning the election as mayor. Keller appointed Karen Milligan at the meeting to finish out Zulsaty's term, which expires in April 2011.

Chicago Ridge approves TIF feasibility study

By Matt Mayer

Mayor Eugene Siegel announced at the Dec. 7 Chicago Ridge Board of Trustees meeting that he had received a letter from the City of Chicago to the Village of Oak Lawn which reads as follows: Dear suburban water customers, we are pleased to announce that our 2011 budget was passed by the City of Chicago on Nov. 17 and it reflects no water rate increase for 2011. The 2011 rate is $15 per 1000 cubic feet. Water Commissioner Thomas Powers for the City of Chicago made this decision.

The village board approved a feasibility study for a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District. The study will be preformed by Keane McKenna Associates, Inc for the abandoned Yellow Freight trucking terminal on the east side of 103rd and Harlem Avenue. The boundaries of the TIF are the Tri-State Tollway to the north and 103rd to the south. The village is seeking the area to be a commercial redevelopment.

Other highlights: The village board approved a contract with Kramer Datapower Service, Inc of Rolling Meadows, Il for $5,821 per year, which equates to $17,463 for a three-year contract, to provide an uninterrupted power supply system for police department and the municipal building computer system. The contract calls for one year of full coverage that includes on site service, unlimited emergency service, parts and labor as well as a toll free hot line number and no charge for travel expenses.

A request for the building inspector to attend a seminar at an approximate cost of $2,000 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin was approved. The amount includes the cost of the seminar, lodging, and travel expenses.

A solicitation request from Bread of Life Outreach Ministry of Joliet to solicit on Dec 26 was denied. Trustee James Summers objected due to the fact that the organization does not help the local community and the board concurred. However the board approved solicitation requests for YMCA Candy Days for April 1 and April 2, Sertoma Candy Days for September 9 and 10 as well as Park Lawn Egg Days on April 15 and 16 and April 22 and 23.

Classes at McCord Gallery for members and non members

Private Children's Watercolor Instruction

$45/$50 per 2 hour Session. Maria DeCaprio-Simta

Help your talented child to bring art to the next level. This one-on-one opportunity will allow your child to learn watercolor techniques such as wet-into-wet to create a variety of textures, color mixing, to create depth, lifting and more. Drawing elements are heavily discussed and included in these fantastic sessions. Suggested supplies are not included. Sessions made by appointment with instructor. Please call the McCord Office (708) 671-0648.

Semi-private Instruction for Adult and Child

$80/$85 per 2 hour Session. Maria DeCaprio-Simta

This is the perfect opportunity to connect with your child or grandchild through art! Schedule your lessons today to work on watercolor and drawing elements. Individual attention allows both participants to work at his/her own pace. Enhance your quality time by adding art to the equation.

Technical Assistance and Consultation for Artists. Jill Regan

By appointment

$25/half hour or $45/hour

This offering consists of 30-minute blocks of time, during which artists may work in a one-on-one environment to ask questions, learn techniques, or improve their computer skills. Individual attention will allow participants to work at their own pace and choose topics specific to their needs. Available topics will include resizing images, adjusting image resolution, cropping images, attaching, uploading, downloading and saving images, and using special effects to create better paintings using enhancement techniques, filters, and layers. Additional topics may be addressed upon discussion between participant and instructor.

Digital Services for Artists. Jill Reagan

By appointment

This offering is membased for adaptability to artists' specific needs and will be a great service for artists who are applying to juried shows in the digital age.

- Photograph artwork to create a digital image: $10/1 image
- Prepare digital image for submission or upload: $10/1 image or $25/3 images
- Digital submission for artists $10/1 image or $25/3 images
- Burn digital image to CD: $6/1 CD + $4 for each additional CD
- Build a website using Artspan.com or FineArtStudioOnline.com: $250

Please call the McCord Office (708) 671-0648, for further information on these classes, and other classes, programs and events. Or stop by McCord Gallery at 9602 West Creek Road, Palos Park, IL.

Gallery Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00am-2:00pm. Saturday, 11:00am-4:00pm

Palos Park Public Library Story Time

Join us for Good Morning Story Time at the Palos Park Public Library every Tuesday at 10:30am January 4th through February 22nd. Children ages 4 and 5 are invited to enjoy fun filled stories, sing songs, create special crafts, and make new friends. Parents or caregivers must accompany their child in the library during story time.

Toddler Story Time returns to the Palos Park Public Library every Wednesday at 10am January 5th through February 23rd. Children ages 2 and 3 are invited to enjoy full filled stories, sing songs, create special crafts, and make new friends. Parents or caregivers must accompany child in the library during story time.

Join us for Night Owl Story Time at the Palos Park Public Library every Tuesday at 6:30pm January 4th-February 22nd. Children ages 4 and 5 are invited to enjoy fun filled stories, sing songs, create special crafts, and make new friends. Parents or caregivers must accompany their child in the library during story time.

The library is located at 12330 Forest Glen Blvd., Palos Park, IL. To register for these program contact the library at (708)448-1530 or visit us online at www.palospark library.org.

Village View

We serve our community with good news!

B-MAC EDITION

Volume 4 | Number 24 | December 21, 2010

Blue Island, Midlothian, Alsip, Crestwood

Forelight's Waste To Energy Information Session Confronts Community Suspicion, Fear of the Unknown

By Ronald Ayers

There was irritation, hostility, and suspicion bubbling just beneath the surface of the Waste To Energy Information Session held at the Blue Island Recreation Center 2805 W 141st street Friday December 10, 2010

Approximately thirty five (35) people from various parts of the South Suburbs came to the center to hear what Forelight had to say about its Waste to Energy Initiative for the South Suburbs

"What are we here for?" asked a man in the audience "Is this some kind of lynching session?"

"No" said Julie Moffitt, External Relations Director for Forelight "We've come to talk about how we might best dispose of the garbage on your curb"

Carol DiPace Greene, head of the Citizens For A Clean Blue Island poses a question to the Forelight Project team during a Forelight Information Session about Municipal Waste Management and Plasma Arc Gasification held at the Blue Island Recreation Center (Photo for the Village View by Ronald Ayers)

Forelight, a private group of business people reportedly with no ties to any south suburban municipality have stated goals of

* Reducing community dependence on unsustainable landfills
* Finding environmentally responsible methods for disposing of municipal waste
* Create local jobs for community residents

According to Forelight, Blue Island and Alsip

* Produce a combined total of 15,500 tons of waste per year. Alsip's garbage removal costs $18.20 per household every month

"Our objective is to see how we can flatten out that cost," said Forelight project team member Michael Kline

Blue Island Alderman Gerald Hall (6th Ward) said of Blue Island

"Our cost for garbage collection and transportation is constantly going up. Soon, we'll be paying as much for garbage collection as we pay in taxes"

According to Forelight research

• A Modern garbage truck averages 2.8 miles per gallon of diesel, and travels 25,000 miles annually. Blue Island and Alsip require two trucks each.

• On average, 54 % of household waste is sent to landfills every year.

• A single ton of landfilled waste can generate 130 pounds of methane and 240 pounds of carbon dioxide in one year. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) uncontrolled methane "is about 21 times more powerful at warming the atmosphere than carbon dioxide"

• Passenger vehicles in the U.S. produce an average of 5.2 tons of carbon dioxide every year. The combined impact of Alsip's and Blue Island's land filled waste --over 8,000 tons annually--is equal to putting more than 2,100 extra cars on the road every year

Forelight called the 12-10-10 information session to not only disseminate information about Municipal Waste Management ideas, but to also clear up mis-information concerning whether a Plasma Arc Gasification (PAG) plant was planned for Blue Island and surroundings communities

PAG is a waste treatment technology that uses electrical energy and the high temperatures -- up to 7,000 degrees Centigrade -- created by an electric arc gasifier. This arc breaks down waste into elemental gas and solid waste in a device called a plasma converter. The process has been intended to be a waste disposal system and generator of electricity

Around July 2009, Blue Island Mayor Don Peloquin reportedly began working on a plan to bring a PAG facility to the area near 123rd Street and Interstate 57. PAG was to serve as Blue Island's alternative to Landfills

PAG has its detractors.

The Citizens Committee for a Clean Blue Island, led by resident Carol DiPace Greene has opposed Mayor Peloquin's PAG initiative

According to DiPace-Greene, the facility would create an environmental hazard for Blue Island and neighboring communities because of the transportation and break down of 4,000 tons of waste per day

Forelight Engineer Adam Flynn, told the audience that

"Our research has determined that Plasma Arc Gasification technology is not ready yet, and that it might take 25 years for the technology to be ready."

Sixth Ward Alderman Gerald Hill told the audience that Blue Island Mayor Donald Peloquin had talked with developers about a possible Plasma Arc plant in Blue Island about a year ago. Now however

"Plasma Arc is off the table"

In remarks to this reporter after the meeting, Alderman Hall said

"As long as I'm here, I'll make sure that any plans, survey's or proposals for building a garbage disposal facility will come before the city council before anything is built" said Hall

Blue Island Citizen Ronald Young told this reporter that,

"I did about six months research into Plasma Arc gasification, and this meeting validated my conclusion that Plasma Arc gasification is not practical"

Forelight is considering at least three waste disposal technologies to recommend to Blue Island and Alsip officials as a way of managing the cost of their municipal waste disposal, and the elimination of landfill usage

* Anaerobic Digestion
* Mechanical Biological Treatment Facilities
* Algae Biofuel

Julie Moffitt emphasized that any municipal waste technology proposed to any municipality would contain a job training program that will enable local residents to make the most of the new technology.

Blue Island 6th Ward Alderman Dexter Johnson said

"I'm really thankful for Forelight. They are answering a lot of questions that citizens have about waste management and disposal in the community. We need to look at everything Forelight is researching. We need to look at the safety aspects of the various technologies, and we need to look at the economic values these waste technologies will bring to the city. What Forelight is doing is a great thing"

Alsip Declares Surplus TIF District Revenue

By Ronald Ayers

Taxing Districts associated with the Village of Alsip will receive a distribution of property tax revenues due to the passage of an ordinance declaring surplus revenue in the village's 123rd Street Tax Increment Finance District (TIF)

Alsip's Board of Trustees unanimously approved Ordinance 2010-12-1 at its December 6, 2010 meeting held in Village Hall, 4500 W 123rd Street

Ordinance 2010-12-1 authorizes Alsip's Finance Director to send the surplus amount of $300,000 to the Cook County Treasurer for distribution to various taxing districts

In March, 1993 Alsip adopted ordinances approving a redevelopment plan and project for its 123rd Street Redevelopment Project Area. The 1993 Ordinances designated the TIF District and adopted tax increment financing

Alsip also entered into various "Intergovernmental Agreements" calling on the village to set aside from a special tax allocation fund $300,000 of incremental property tax revenue from the 2009 tax levy year. The taxing districts receiving the surplus funds are.

• Atwood Heights School District 125
• Alsip-Hazelgreen-Oak Lawn School District 126
• Cook County School District 130
• Community High School District 218
• Moraine Valley Community College District 524
• The Alsip Park District
• The Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library District
• Worth Township

Alsip's Village Board passed three other ordinances at its December 6, 2010 meeting:

Ordinance 2010-7-1 Amending the 2010-2011 Annual Appropriation passed with 6 Ayes, and 0 Nays. The Appropriation Ordinance is one of the most important ordinances adopted each year. This ordinance gives the legal authority under which Alsip allocates money to specific spending activities

Section One of the ordinance list fifty-three (53) line items subject to amendment. Line Item 101-2020-422-10-39 is posted in the "Change" column of the ordinance at $34,185. The "New Amount" for this item is posted as $1,271,562

This reporter placed a call 12-13-10 to Alsip Finance Director Greg Palumbo to get an explanation of the line item. At press time, this reporter's call had not been returned.

Ordinance 2010-12-3 Waiving and Suspending fifty (50) percent of the applicable building permit fees except for inspection fees, for an energy efficiency project at the property located at 4343 W 123rd Street passed 5 Ayes, and 1 Abstain.

The ordinance was passed in connection with a request from the Sertoma Centre, 4100 W 127th Street, an Illinois non-profit corporation.

According to the ordinance, the waiver was necessary because "there is no provision of the Municipal Code for the Village of Alsip authorizing a waiver and suspension of the applicable fees."

Trustee Kevin Michaels abstained from voting on the ordinance. In a telephone interview with this reporter 12-15-10, Trustee Michaels said,

"I'm on the Sertoma board of directors for Hearing and Speech. So, it would be inappropriate for me to vote on any matter concerning Sertoma that might result in a reduction of fees"

Ordinance 2010-152-1 Granting a special use permit for property located at 5250 W. Plattner Drive passed with 6 Ayes, and 0 Nays. Applicant Jason DeSanto applied for a special use permit to operate a used truck sale business in an I-2 Industrial Medium District.

The Alsip Planning and Zoning Commission conducted a public hearing to consider the application November 24, 2010. After considering all of the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing, the Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously approved DeSanto's application.

In other matters

* The Village Board approved $703,962.39 in Accounts Payable for fiscal year 2010-2011.

Village View

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